ADWAY'S
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GREAT
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Seen and Felt
Daily Occur!

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DWAY'S
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Substitute for Calomel.

s, elegantly coated with sweet
to purify, cleanse and strengthen
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RADWAY'S PILLS will free the
above-named disorders.
25 Cents per Box.

e reader must consult our book
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Guide,"
Irritable Urethra,"
Scrofula."
to different classes of Disease
BY DRUGGISTS.

ALSE AND TRUE"
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THE PUBLIC.

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Horticultural Society

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

VOLUME XLI.—NO. 25. BOSTON, SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1882. WHOLE NUMBER 2097.

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Official Organ of the N. E. Agricultural Society

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Editorial.

SELECTION OF SEED.

The season for planting is so near at hand that the farmer should no longer delay to look over his stock of seeds, that he may decide what sorts he is deficient in, and what he may consider not up to the proper standard in quality. While every individual realizes the importance of planting the very best varieties of seeds, far too many do not fully realize that there are other important qualities to be sought besides variety; the vigor, the health, and the constitutional strength of the plant that comes from the seed are all important. The seed of the very best variety of onions, which have been bred up to the very highest standard of excellence may be selected, but if disease has crept in and reduced its constitutional vigor, in fact, if it is not perfectly healthy and vigorous the advantage gained by excellence in variety will be more than balanced by constitutional weakness.

Every progressive farmer knows from experience how difficult it is to make progress in quality, and at the same time maintain, in the fullest degree, a vigorous and healthy constitution; this applies to both the animal and vegetable kingdom. Constitutional weakness, in our opinion, is frequently brought on by planting old seed, yet is rarely suspected by the cultivator. If the seed will germinate it is pronounced good; but this is not always true; it may germinate, but in a manner so feeble as to produce but a small crop.

While there are some kinds of seed that retain their vitality to a wonderful degree, others fail to germinate after the first year, but as a rule, it is best to plant seed of all kinds the same, or, the next season after grown. New seed start off with more vigor and produce more abundantly than old seed; but sometimes it is better to plant old seed, that is known to be of a high quality, than to plant new seed that nothing is known of the qualities, providing the old seed has not lost too much of its vitality.

Every package of seed when put up should have attached to it the year it was grown, so that when the seeds are looked over the age of each package may be known. Whenever there is any doubt as to the vitality of any seed the farmer should never neglect to test its power to grow, by planting a given number of seeds in a box, kept warm in the house; when sufficient time has elapsed for the seed to grow, by counting the young plants, its power to germinate can be ascertained. It is well to test, even new seed; this is the only way to be sure of its germinating powers.

Whatever seed the farmer is obliged to purchase should be purchased not only where he is confident he shall get good varieties, but also good qualities; and his purchases should be made in season to give him an opportunity to test its germinating powers before planting time. By testing seed, great losses and disappointments are often saved. Seeds that are properly tested in the house and fail can be returned to the seedsman, and he cannot say it failed to germin te because the weather was too cold, too wet, or too dry; it gives an opportunity to obtain better seed, and thus avoid a failure of a crop, because of planting poor seed.

While the farmer should exert himself to grow the larger portion of his seed there will always be some sorts that he can buy to much better advantage than he can grow them. Whatever seeds he may find it for his interest to buy it is more consequence that he buy of good reliable men, than it is that he buys cheap, for poor seed is dear at any price; while good seed is cheap at twice the usual price.

It is very difficult to select good seed by its general appearance. Much of it must be tested before its vital qualities can be known. Small seed like grass seed often are mixed with them considerable quantities of foreign substance, but a careful examination with a magnifying glass, of low power, will discover the proportion of such seeds that are mixed with it. When it is found that the proportion of grass seed is too small, it should be rejected, and a better quality sought for.

When farmers will unitedly refuse to buy poor seed, or seed that has large quantities of noxious weed seeds mixed with it, more care will be taken to grow good seed, and keep it free from noxious weed seeds and other foreign substances; but as long as farmers are not particular, except to get seed at a low price, the market will be stocked with seed that is far from what it should be.

Only those who have tested the difference between good seed and bad realize how much the quantity as well as quality of the crop depends on the seed. There is often a vast difference in the yield of different varieties. Some varieties of Indian corn will, with the same expenditure of labor and fertilizers, yield from ten to twenty bushels of corn to the acre more than others. What is true of corn is true to some extent of all other crops. In the selection of seed, it should be our aim to select such as will, with a given amount of labor and fertilizers, furnish the most valuable crop of fruit, grain or vegetables.

Whenever the farmer makes any particular crop a specialty, he should start with the highest type of seed that he can procure, and it should be his constant effort to improve upon it every year, by growing his own seed with the greatest care. He should have his ideal of perfection, and carefully select, every year, such specimens to breed from as come the nearest to his ideal. In this way, an intelligent farmer will make a wonderful, as well as a rapid progress, and will soon be able to put on the market a better quality than those who depend on purchasing seed in the open market, and will make a large profit, while their neighbors will get hardly enough to pay expenses.

While it may not be, and probably is not best, for the farmer to attempt to grow all of his field and garden seeds, he should try to grow seed for his grain crops, and also the seed for such garden crops as he intends to grow for the market. He should also make an effort to always have new seed, as well as that of the highest type.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

While the great mass of the people of Massachusetts are in favor of establishing an Experimental Station, but few realise the importance of the work to be done, or the value of the advantages to be gained. When it is generally understood that the advantages it will secure are in a direction to secure cheaper food, and thus benefit all classes, the regret will be, that a station was not established before. Never before, in Massachusetts, was there such deep interest manifested in all that pertains to agricultural progress, as now; never before did such large and intelligent audiences gather together in all portions of the State, for the purpose of gathering up advanced ideas relating to the cultivating of crops and the feeding of animals; and never before did the farmers so fully realize the importance of applying both labor and materials to the land, with intelligence. It is beginning to be understood that a very large per cent. of the fertilisers that we apply to our land, and the food we feed to our animals is wasted, because of the want of correct knowledge as to the best manner of application, or of feeding. The farmers have learned these facts by individual experiments; they have learned the importance of having an experimental station, under the care of the State, that the experiments may be under the experience of men of science, and also where it may be continuous, and where every step of progress will be recorded and published for the benefit of all classes throughout the State. If by experiment there shall be found a cheap way by which the inexhaustible free nitrogen of the air can be united with the materials of the earth, and thus make it available for plant food, it will not only be a great advantage to every farmer, but to every merchant or mechanic who plants a garden. If a way can be discovered to improve the flavor of fruits, it will not only be an advantage to every fruit grower, but to every person who eats fruit. If a method can be discovered by which animals can be fed with more economy, it will not only benefit every one who keeps farm stock, but every one who drinks a quart of milk, or eats a pound of cheese or meat. That a well conducted experimental station will discover all of these, is the opinion of those whose occupation and intelligence fit them to be good judges; if this is true, then the people of the State will be benefited not only by having cheaper food, but there will grow out of it a still greater advantage; the moment our farmers are able, by superior knowledge, to compete with the West, our lands will be more extensively cultivated; this means increased industry in agriculture, which being the basis of all other industries, lifts up and improves all others; therefore, although this may be said to be an agricultural measure, it is really a measure which will directly or indirectly, improve the condition of all classes.

We trust that when this measure is brought before the Legislature it will be looked at in its true light, and its importance fully realized. Rarely has there been a measure brought before the Legislature, costing so little, that has promised so large a return, as this. Massachusetts has always been liberal in her appropriations of money for progressive measures; sometimes this has been done to the disadvantage of the farmer, as in the case of the Hoosac Tunnel, but in this case, cheaper food for the masses was considered of importance enough to compensate for the losses incurred by the farmer. Now as there is an opportunity to legislate in a manner which promises to discover to the farmer a way by which he can compete with the West, and at the same time by at no injury, but rather a benefit to the masses, we trust that the members of the Legislature will gladly put themselves on record in favor of a measure that promises advantages so wide spread.

THE CANKER WORM.

As soon as the frost leaves the ground, this pest of the orchards will be in motion, and unless the orchardist gets the start, and protects his trees at once, he may expect that his crop of apples will be cut short on all trees infested last year.

If the trees are protected with patent tree protectors, the troughs should be well cleaned out, and filled with fresh oil. Trees that are not thus protected should at once have a strip of tarred paper, at least a foot in width, placed around them, first trimming off the rough bark, that the paper may set snug to the tree. The paper should be kept covered with tree ink, or a preparation made of rosin and linseed oil melted together, the proportion of rosin and oil varying to conform to the weather, more oil being required in cold than in warm weather.

Every person who owns an apple orchard in locations where the canker worm is found, ought to feel it to be a duty to keep his trees thoroughly protected. If every one would do so, there would be some chance to get rid of this enemy; but so long as a portion of the orchards are unprotected, the worms will increase quite as fast as they are destroyed, and will be in sufficient numbers to spread over the whole neighborhood, thus requiring those who protect their trees to do so every year, because of the neglect of their neighbors. This is a hardship that they ought not to be required to suffer. There should be an united effort to protect all of the trees wherever the canker worm is found, and thus in a few years stamp the enemy out altogether.

Every town should, by some municipal act, cause the shade trees in the streets and public squares that furnish food to the canker worm to be thoroughly protected. This is important, as there is no way by which the worm is spread from one town to another more rapidly than by dropping from the trees by the roadside upon the passing carriages. Unless some more united action is taken to stop the spread of these great pests, both to the orchard and shade trees, the time is coming when the whole State will be infected by a scourge that will very much increase the labor of growing apples, and mar the beauty of the stately elms which now line many streets of eastern Massachusetts.

Questions & Answers.

☞ All questions to the Editor, desiring answer through the *Ploughman*, should be accompanied by the full name of the correspondent.

PARIS GREEN FOR CANKER WORMS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Can you give me any information in regard to the use of Paris Green for canker worms?

Yours,
AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Boston, March 3d, 1882.

Paris green has been used with success in killing the canker worm, by mixing a small spoonful of it with a pail of water, and sprinkling it over the trees with a portable force pump, made for similar purposes. The work should be done as soon as the worms are all hatched. It must be remembered that Paris green is a deadly poison to the human race, as well as the insect tribe, and therefore should be used with the greatest caution. When all other efforts have failed to destroy this pest of the orchard, this may be used as a last resort, but great care should be taken not to sprinkle it over the vegetables in the garden, where lettuce or dandelions, or in fact any vegetable grows of which the leaves are to be eaten. Paris green is so certain to kill every species of insects, that there is danger that we shall become careless in its use, unless frequently reminded of its poisonous nature.—[ED.

BEDDING CATTLE—COTTON SEED MEAL.

To the Editor Mass. Ploughman:

Are cattle bedded on sand more or less likely to have itch in any form, or will it of itself produce anything of the kind?

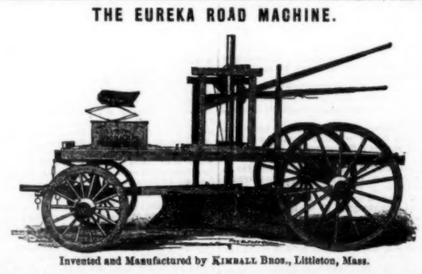
Is there any part of cotton seed meal that is injurious to cows? Generally it can be bought during the spring and summer months from $5 to $8 per ton less than in the fall and winter. But I am told that in the summer we buy old seed ground, hulls and all, while in the fall the seed is new and the hulls cannot be ground, and that they are injurious to cows. Am I correctly informed? By setting me right, through the columns of the *Ploughman*, you will oblige a new subscriber. J. W. F.

Still River, Mass., Feb. 22, 1882.

Bedding cattle would not be likely to give them the itch or to prevent it, if they mingle with other cattle that have it. The itch is caused by a small insect that burrows under the skin. Sometimes they come to the surface of the skin, and thus the disease is spread by animals coming in contact with each other. Cattle kept clean will not have this disease without coming in contact with cattle that do have it. It is supposed to originate among cattle that are kept in a filthy condition.

There is quite a difference of opinion in regard to the healthfulness of cotton seed meal, but a large proportion of farmers at the present time believe in feeding it in small quantities, say a pint a day to each cow. Some contend that if not more than two quarts a day be given, it is no more injurious to the cow than Indian meal. Nearly all believe that not more than two quarts a day should be given a milch cow, but occasionally one feeds three or four quarts, when ensilage is fed with it. We do not think there would be any positive certainty of getting a better quality of meal, at any particular season of the year.—[ED.

THE EUREKA ROAD MACHINE.



Invented and Manufactured by KIMBALL BROS., Littleton, Mass.

The advantages claimed for the Eureka Road Machine, are 1st. The draught of the Machine is the lightest and steadiest of any road machine made that can do the same amount of work; 2nd. The operator rides on the wagon—a much more agreeable task than walking, holding to a lever, or riding the scraper; 3rd. It is so constructed that it does not dart off into the gutter when moving large quantities of dirt, thus enabling the team to work to much better advantage; 4th. The scraper is fastened at such an angle that the dirt does not clog or lay on the front of the machine; 5th. It is so constructed that it starts the dirt by lifting and rolling it, instead of pushing against the bank, which fact evidently very much lessens the draft of the machine; 6th. It is not prevented from working by coming into contact with grass, hay, brush, etc.; 7th. Being firmly connected, as it is, with the bed of the wagon, it runs smoothly and steadily, instead of jumping along, leaving ridges; 8th. It being gauged by the latches or levers it cannot dig into the soft places and leave the hard, but cuts down the high places and fills the hollows, somewhat on the principle of a jointer plane, the wagon acting as the plane, and the scraper as the plane iron; 9th. It is easily raised and suspended while passing obstructions, or travelling on the road; 10th. It is so perfectly under the control of the operator that it can cut from one to six inches deep as is required; 11th. It is a perfect leveller; 12th. When not in use as a scraper, the Machine can easily be detached from the wagon, which is an excellent one; 13th. With the plough attachment it will work where other machines will do nothing; 14th. The Steel is so attached, that, by turning and moving down, it presents twenty cutting edges of three-quarters of an inch each; 15th. The wagon is very convenient for carrying tools, and indispensable for the perfect handling of the Machine. 16th. It is very simple and strong in construction, not liable to break or get out of repair.

WOOD ASHES.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Will you please inform me through the columns of the *Ploughman*, the value of wood ashes made from wood where the lye has been removed, and how they compare in value with Stockbridge's Fertiliser as a top dressing? I can buy them delivered at the railroad station at twenty-five cents per bushel. A SUBSCRIBER.

Abington, Mass., Feb. 20, 1882.

So much depends on the condition of the land, the kind of crop grown, and the character of the other fertilisers applied, in connection with the ashes, that this question cannot be answered, positively, in a single paragraph. Leached ashes are good for almost any crop, but should be applied with other fertilizers that contain vegetable substances, like barn manure; thus applied, on most of soils, and for nearly all crops, 25 cents a bushel would be cheaper than commercial fertilisers; but if to be used alone, without other fertiliser rich in nitrogen and carbon, while the land might be permanently improved, the crop of the present year would not be satisfactory. Fifty bushels of ashes applied to an acre of land in connection with two cords of good stable manure, would produce better results for most crops than one hundred and fifty bushels applied without other fertilisers, or five cords of stable manure applied with no other fertiliser with it. On most of soils the crop, the present year, would be better, and the land would be left in a better condition, by applying barn manure in connection with the ashes.—[ED.

"BOSS BEAUTY."

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I have a heifer that was two years old the first day of last April. She is a granddaughter of "Jersey Belle," and we call her "Boss Beauty." She dropped her calf the 6th of June, which we gave away, and since then we have weighed her milk, and up to the 20th of Dec.—six months—she gave 4,069 pounds. We set a day's milk two or three times in the summer, and it would make one pound and nine ounces of butter. She was giving from 25 to 38 pounds of milk daily. During the month of January she gave 451 1-4 pounds of milk.

On Monday, the 20th of February, we set her milk for the day. It weighed 18 1-2 pounds, and produced 14 3-4 ounces of butter. She is due to calve the 25th of next May. She is fed on English hay, one quart of carrots, two quarts of shorts, and one pint of meal daily. Her butter is nice and yellow, but not quite so high colored as when at grass.

During the month of February she gave 490 pounds of milk. ZENAS T. EWELL.

East Marshfield, Mass., Feb. 25, 1882.

☞ The rhubarb bed should be attended to as early as possible. It is the first fruit of the garden, and making its advent thus early it is very acceptable for pies or sauce. The beds can be increased—and indeed it is the best way—by dividing the roots, each piece having a little of the crown, and it will begin to yield a supply the following year. The new beds can be prepared and set out, say three feet apart each way, as early as the ground is fit to work.

Correspondence.

"PEDIGREE."

BY PETER FAY.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

A little more pedigree and I am done. To the man who signs himself "An Old Subscriber," I have no reply to make; facts are better than arguments; I have attended the sales of three herds of thoroughbred stock, pedigree well recorded in the book, and not doubted. I will give a brief history of the sale of the thoroughbred stock of Mr. H. H. Peters of Southboro', as I am more acquainted with his stock, and frequently visiting his farm, and allow me to say, he was a born farmer, "not made." His auction attracted a large number of farmers from all parts of New England, and some from New York State, and every animal that was put up at auction was sold as she stood on her feet, and the good points in which she exhibited to the bidder, and that is the case in every auction which I have attended, whether thoroughbreds, grades or natives. This endeth my epistle on pedigree.

Glad to read the able correspondence from Dr. J. R. Nichols, in the last *Ploughman*; it was written by a man who knows what he is talking about. We live in an age of the greatest improvement the world ever saw, and the greatest humbuggery—the two will go together.

The piece before me in the *Ploughman* of March 4th, is the "Effect of Thorough Cultivation of Plant Growth." It is worth ten times the cost of the *Ploughman* one year, if the farmer will read it and reread it, and put it into practice. We farmers do not understand chemistry by the book and laboratory, but by long experience and close observation, we can learn much; if a farmer is not a man of observation he had better give up farming, and go into some other business. Let me relate a little incident of my early days of farming: The minister of the parish with which I was connected had the best garden of any in town; I went to him one day, (the Rev. Walter Follett), and said to him, "Will you please tell me what is the secret of this enormous growth of your vegetables, and getting them so forward?" (knowing he had but a little manure, and no fertilisers then in use but wood ashes). "Well, Mr. Fay, I can tell you in a few words; I am in my garden by the rising of the sun, (this was June) and I can go over it in about four mornings, then I commence and go over it again, and continue it till my vegetables are grown, and never let a weed go to seed." The secret of this growth was the frequent stirring of the soil. That lesson was worth to me five hundred dollars, on a two hundred dollar farm.

One thing more and my scribbling will close; can you give me any information, or any of the readers of the *Ploughman*, what can be done to exterminate those meadow moles which work in my reclaimed meadows? They run about two inches under the surface, and from two to four feet, flinging up on the surface from a peck to half a bushel of black mould; they have been working about three years, and are increasing every year, making the mowing very bad. How can they be exterminated, and at least expense?

Southboro', March 7, 1882.

"COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS."

Ninth Annual Report on Commercial Fertilizers.

BY PROF. C. A. GOESSMANN,
Of the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

Official Report to the State Board of Agriculture.

The consumption of Commercial Fertilizers is still increasing from year to year throughout the entire country. The tendency of a gradual but steady rise in the cost of various kinds of crude stock used for their manufacture—referred to in my last annual report—1880-1881, has been a noticeable feature in the history of the trade in fertilisers during the past year. The prices of the potassa and of the nitrogen in particular have been higher than in previous years—whilst those of the different forms of phosphoric acid, have remained as a general rule more stationary. The higher grades of potassium chloride (muriate of potash) have brought a higher price, whilst the kainits and the higher grades of potassium sulphate have been sold at previous rates or for less. A continuation of this condition may have its effect in the future on the composition of the compound fertilisers—to meet their customary retail market prices per ton, by lowering their nitrogen percentage, and increasing that of phosphoric acid. The lately reduced importation of Genuine Peruvian Guano, as well as the smaller supply of Menhaden fish refuse, has no doubt exerted a serious influence on the entire trade, and may in part at least account for the increased cost of all our ammoniated superphosphates. I have taken particular pains to obtain at various times during the past year, until quite recently, reliable market reports from Boston and New York. A digested abstract of the information obtained in this connection will be found within the subsequent pages—under the heading—New York and Boston Market Prices for 1881. The figures in that portion will refer in either case to the cost of the articles delivered at the respective local railroad depots, in case of cash payments. As the cost of distribution including the customary credit, of from three to six months must vary more or less in each case, it has, for obvious reasons been left to the good judgment of the consumer to decide, what if any, addition to the price asked for the fertiliser he bought is a fair one. According to the best information obtained, it seems quite admissable to expect in the retail trade in the majority of instances, an advance of from twenty to twenty-five per cent above first cost at the works.

The valuation which accompanies in many instances the analysis of the fertiliser, does not necessarily coincide with that of the manufacturer, but simply approximates the price at which the various constituents named in the analysis were offered for sale in a good form in the general market at the time of collection.

For the purpose of the trade for the earlier period of the coming season, the following prices may be considered a fair basis for the valuation of the essential constituents of fertilisers; only superior forms of the *guaranteed* compositions have received a particular consideration in the valuation; and in case of inferior mechanical condition of the fertilizers the customary lower rates has been adopted:—

	Per pound in cents
Nitrogen in form of nitric acid	25
Nitrogen in form of actual ammonia	26
Nitrogen in form of animal matter	24
Soluble phosphoric acid	12.5
Reverted Phosphoric acid	9
Insoluble phosphoric acid	6
Potassium oxide in muriate of potash	5
Potassium oxide in kainite	6
Potassium oxide in high grades of sulphate of potassa	7

It is well for farmers to consider that the manufacturers are only obliged to furnish the lowest percentage guaranteed in their statement of composition; and that the insoluble phosphoric acid in many of our ammoniated superphosphates consists of fine ground mineral phosphates, which are less efficient and consequently less worth, than that in form of bones and of animal and vegetable matter.

New York and Boston Market Prices for the Year 1881.

I.—(March.)

	Price per pound in cents.
1. Nitrogen. In form of nitric acid	25
In form of ammonia	26
In form of dried ground meat and blood, finely pulverised steamed bones, fish guano and fish guano, Peruvian guano, urates, poudrettes, and artificial guano	24
In form of finely ground bones, and bat guano	22
In form of fine ground horn, wool dust, etc	15
In form of coarsely ground bones	18
In form of horn shavings and woolen rags, human excretions and barnyard manure, fish scraps, animal refuse matter from glue factories and tanneries, etc	12
II. Phosphoric acid soluble in water as contained in alkaline phosphates and superphosphates	12.5
In Peruvian guano and urates	9
In form of so-called reduced or reverted acid	9
In precipitated bone phosphate, steamed fine bones, fish guano, according to age and disintegration from 5—6.5 to 8	
In form of bone black waste, wood ash, Caribbean guano, ground bone ash, coarsely ground bones, poudrette, barn-yard manure, etc	4
In form of finely ground South Carolina rock	3
III. Potassium oxide. In form of muriate of potash or chloride of potassium	5
In form of sulphate of potassa in natural and artificial kainite	4
In form of higher grades of sulphate of potassa	7.to 7.5

New York and Boston Market Prices for the Year 1881.

II.—(March.)

Name of Material.	Price per ton of 2000 pounds, in dollars	Price per pound, in case of less than 100 pounds, in cents.
Sulphate of ammonia, containing from 24 to 25 per cent of ammonia	95 100	4.75 5. 6
Nitrate of soda (Chili saltpetre), containing 95 per cent of the compound	75 80	3.75 4. 5
Nitrate of potassa containing 94 to 96 per cent of that compound	165 170	9 9. 5
Dried blood, yielding from (a) 15 to 17 per cent of ammonia, (black)	65 75	3. 5 4
(b) 12 to 14 per cent of ammonia, (soft-red)	55 60	2.75 3.25
(c) 10 to 12 per cent of ammonia	45 50	2 25 2.75
Dried meat, yielding from 14 to 15 per cent of ammonia	50 55	3
Castor pomace (ground), yielding 6 to 6 per cent of ammonia	25 30	1. 5 2
Cotton seed meal, yielding from 7 to 8 per cent of ammonia	33 55	1.75 2.25
Fine ground bone (steamed), yielding from 2.5 to 4.3 per cent of ammonia, and containing from 50 to 55 per cent of bone phosphate	38 45	2 2. 5
Bone black (waste material), containing from 30 to 34 per cent of phosphoric acid	30 35	1.75 2
South Carolina phosphate (ground) containing from 25 to 28 per cent of phosphoric acid	20 25	1.25 1.5
Navassa phosphate (ground), containing from 25 to 28 per cent of phosphoric acid	20 25	1.25 1.5
Canadian apatite (ground), containing from 30 to 35 per cent of phosphoric acid	30 35	1. 5 .2
Superphosphate or lime, containing from 13 to 15 per cent of soluble phosphoric acid	30 35	1. 5 .2
Acid phosphate, containing from 12 to 14 per cent of soluble phosphoric acid	25 30	1. 5 1.75
Lobos guano, yielding from 4 to 6 per cent of ammonia, and containing from 18 to 20 per cent of phosphoric acid	45 60	2 2.5
Peruvian guano (guaranteed), yielding from 6 to 8 per cent of ammonia, and containing from 12 to 14 per cent of phosphoric acid	60 65	3.25 3.5
Muriate of potash (Douglass salt) containing 80 per cent of that compound, equal to 50 per cent of potassium oxide and about 10 per cent of sulphate of magnesia	45 50	2. 5
Sulphate of potassa, containing 90 per cent of that compound, which is equal to 43.2 per cent of potassium oxide	65	4
Sulphate of potassa, containing from 46 to 48 per cent of that compound, which is equal to from 23.3 to 25 per cent of potassium oxide	55 60	3.4

German potash salt, containing from 28 to 32 per cent of sulphate of potassa, which is equal to from 15 to 17.3 per cent of potassium oxide 18 20 1.25
Kainit, low grade, containing 22 to 26 per cent of sulphate of potassa, which is equal to from 11.9 to 14 per cent of potassium oxide 12 15 .75 1
Sulphate of magnesia (kieserite), containing from 60 to 70 per cent of that compound 20 25 1.25 1.5
Sulphate of magnesia, containing from 50 to 55 per cent of that compound 14 15 .8
Fine-ground gypsum, containing from 95 to 98 per cent of that compound 9 10 .5

POTASH COMPOUNDS.

MURIATE OF POTASH.

I.

Collected of Messrs. Bagg & Batchelder, Springfield, Mass.

Moisture	2.00 per cent.
Potassium oxide	50.40 "
Sodium oxide	4.99 "
Magnesium oxide	none
Sulphuric acid	trace
Calcium oxide	none
Sand, etc	0.40

II.

Collected of Bowker Fertiliser Co., Boston, Mass.

Moisture	2.70 per cent.
Insoluble matter, water	0.40 "
Chlorides of alkalies	92.70 "
Potassium oxide	47.48 "
Calcium oxide	trace
Magnesia oxide	trace
Sulphuric acid	trace

(MURIATE OF POTASH.)

III.

Collected of Messrs. Brown & Warner, Northampton, Mass.

Moisture	2.00 per cent.
Potassium oxide	50.54 "
Calcium sulphuric acid	trace

IV.

Sent on for examination.

Water	0.80 per cent.
Potassium oxide	49.83 "
Chloride of magnesium	trace
Sulphate of magnesium	trace

These four samples represent fairly the average quality in our markets of this valuable potash compound. The well-known reliability of this brand, aside from its comparative fair price, has caused its extensive application and late rise from $35 to $45 per ton.

POTASH, MAGNESIUM SULPHATE.

I.

Collected of Bowker Fertiliser Co., Boston, Mass.

Moisture at 100 deg. C	2.70 per cent.
Magnesium sulphate	32.76 "
Calcium sulphate	2.00 "
Potassium sulphate	45. 5 "
Chlorine	none
Insoluble matter	0.50 "

II.

Collected of Messrs. Brown & Warner, Northampton, Mass.

Moisture at 100 deg. C	5.75 per cent.
Magnesium sulphate	37.02 "
Potassium sulphate	44.37 "
Sulphuric acid	46.99 "
Insoluble matter	0.56 "

These two samples represent a brand of "German potash salts," which is highly recommended for deep-rooting plants, as clover, beet roots, etc., on account of the retentional power of the soil in consequence of the presence of magnesium sulphate. The absence of chlorides render it also the safer article for various special industrial crops, as tabacco, sugar beet and potatoes.

ASHES FROM BLUE WORKS.

Sent by H. E. B. Waldron, New Bedford, Mass.

Moisture lost at 100 deg. C	12.74 per cent
Organic and volatile matter	6.40 "
Ash constituents	63.78 "
Insoluble matter	12.30 "
Potassium oxide (sulphate)	9.02 "
Chlorine and sulphuric acid	trace
Insoluble matter	4.79 "

The Onondaga plaster has been sold (at six dollars per ton) during the past year quite generally throughout the western and central parts of the State. It contains from sixty to six-two per cent of sulphate of lime, about two-thirds of the amount in a good Nova Scotia article, which supplied our entire want in previous years.

MARL.

Sent by Hon. Elisar Smith, Lexington, Mass.

Moisture at 100 deg. C	46.80 per cent
Dry matter at 100 deg, 100 deg. C.	44.30 "
Organic matter	3.44 "
Carbonate of lime	37.0 "
Carbonate of magnesia	57 "
Oxides of iron and alumina with traces of phosphoric acid	0.70 "
Insoluble matter	2 49 "
Traces of phosphoric acid and nitrogen	

This marl is noticeable on account or its deficiency in phosphoric acid and in magnesia compounds. Its superior mechanical condition renders it a valuable material wherever application of carbonate of lime is advisable.

ORCHILLA GUANO.

From Messrs. Horton & Phelps, Northampton, Mass.

Moisture	11.20 per cent.
Organic and volatile matter	"
Total phosphoric acid	18.11 "
Total calcium oxide	39.63 "
Insoluble matter	2.40 "
Magnesium oxide	trace.

This sample like those described in previous reports represented in their natural condition a fine pulverised material, which contained from thirty-five to forty per cent. of bone phosphate. Its fitness for the incorporation in barnyard manure and direct application upon turfy lands has been repeatedly pointed out.

NITRATE OF POTASSA.

From Bowker Fertilising Co., Boston, Mass.

Moisture	1.75 per cent.
Potassium oxide	45.62 "
Calcium oxide and sulphuric acid traces.	
Insoluble matter	trace.

The above sample represents a good standard article of its kind, containing from 95 to 96 per cent of nitrate of potassa. The price of this chemical, which is from 165 to 170 dollars per ton—is too high to recommend it for general farm purposes. For experimental purposes in fruit culture, as a source of potassa and nitrogen, it deserves a careful consideration.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.

From Horton & Phelps, Northampton, Mass.

Moisture	1.5 per cent.

tasteless compared with our canned berries. Their rich flavor was gone and where did it go if not by evaporation? I never supposed there was much carbon in the ground, but I can see now why our Advent friends expect the earth to burn up.

The last singular thing about Mr. Mills is that we hear nothing from him until after Dr. Brownhad translated Goffart's book and Dr. Bailey given his experience to the public. It is certain that we are indebted to them for the silo of to-day, and not Mr. Mills.

Dr. Bailey's experiment with his two bulls shows that it took 40 pounds to keep them, while a few pounds of shorts made great gain. I like to see candor in all things and believe the silo will regenerate New England, but think if we swallow all Mr. Mills said we shall fail and many will be discouraged.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, MAR. 18, 1882.

The Pope has given out that it will not be his fault if the troubles between Germany and the Vatican are continued.

Mrs. Sarah E. Howe, the President of the Ladies Deposit, has been sentenced to three years in the House of Correction.

A copyright convention is proposed between Great Britain and the United States, and negotiations are now pending.

The unconditional pardon of Sergeant Mason is to be asked of the President by large numbers of people throughout the country, including the most intelligent and influential.

The President nominated Samuel Blatchford, of New York, to be associate justice of the United States Supreme Court, in place of Justice Hunt, retired,—Mr. Conkling and Senator Edmunds having previously declined.

An anti-polygamy meeting was held in Tremont Temple on Monday, at which Bishop Foster presided, and at which addresses were made by a number of well-known individuals, and a series of pertinent resolutions was finally adopted.

Mr. John Russell Young has been appointed by President Arthur Minister to China. He travelled with Gen. Grant around the world, and was his private secretary, afterwards publishing an extended account of the long and eventful journey.

A most destructive earthquake is reported to have visited Costa Rica, in Central America, which devastated four entire towns, involving the loss of several thousand lives. That entire country is described as being a nest of volcanoes, where such disturbances are most likely to occur.

Queen Victoria has addressed a feeling letter to Sir William Harcourt, in which she expresses her profound sense of the enthusiastic proofs of royalty evinced by her subjects in all parts of the world, and of the welcome congratulations sent from other countries, on her recent escape from the hand of the assassin.

The value of breadstuffs exported during the eight months ending with February last, according to the bureau of statistics, was $135,000,000, against $182,000,000 for the corresponding eight months of last year, which is a decrease of $47,000,000. The most of this decrease was in wheat, which fell off 35 million bushels in quantity, and $32,000,000 in value.

It is rumored that a fatal error has been discovered in the proceedings of the court martial that convicted Sergeant Mason, who fired at Guiteau in his cell, and that a new trial is consequently necessary. There are audible criticisms of the fact of trying him by a court martial for a crime against the civil laws, committed in a time of peace. It is held that the civil laws should be supreme.

The floods in the southwest are a great deal worse than at first represented, the waters having driven out of their homes at least twelve thousand people. Government has been sending aid with all the despatch possible. The levees in Mississippi and Louisiana are giving way continually, thus extending the devastation. The condition of the people is becoming daily more lamentable, and the suffering is beyond ordinary conception. Thousands of miles of watery waste stretch in every direction on both banks of the Mississippi.

THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

The so-called tariff commission bill, which was reported by the Committee of Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, has been placed so low on the business calender that it is doubtful if it is reached for some time, if indeed it is not put off altogether. But the same committee is all ready to report what it styles its "little tariff" bill, which is intended to work reform to the extent of placing certain articles upon a free list that are elemental in the productions of our domestic industries. This little tariff, being for revenue, is capable of taking precedence of even an appropriation measure, which could not be said of the tariff commission bill for the reason that it did not propose to raise revenue.

Whatever else may be done about the tariff, it is certain that some legislative action will have to be taken on the sugar duties, in view of the recent decision of the Supreme Court setting aside the rulings of collectors of customs for the past three years. As that decision overrules the chemical, which is the saccharine, test of value in imported sugars, and remands them to the old and uncertain Dutch test of color, in order to secure the just revenues which are due from sugar importations, it will be necessary to tax sugars on the *ad valorem* principle, which is already proposed. The tariff may be put in commission by Congress and kept there for three years, but of the need of certain immediate corrections and reforms of a specific character there are hardly opposite opinions.

USURERS' WORKS.

It has recently been discovered that there has long been a practice at City Hall, in Boston, of borrowing money of those who always had it to lend at extortionate rates of interest, and that no less than six hundred of the employes of the City Government are to-day under pledges to the class known as usurers to the extent of their entire monthly salaries. In other words, that number of men do not themselves receive the pay they regularly earn, but have assigned it to others. Clerks and other employes of the city are at the mercy of men who are exacting from them as high as eight, and even twelve per cent. per month for borrowed money.

Some time ago, a case was discovered in connection with the East Boston Ferry Department, that an engineer was paying twelve per cent. a month on a loan of $300, thus paying $36 per month, and $432 per annum, for an advance of $300. This amount was more than one-third of his entire salary, eaten out in this manner by the usurers. He was not able to make any payment on his principal at all. And there are numbers of others who are literally chained like slaves to debts thus incurred, which the lenders are no wise desirous of liquidating, so long as they get the full fees of the debt and more every year. This is by no means the only illustration of a custom that prevails everywhere, especially in our large cities. Debt itself is bad enough, but it is infinitely worse when it is rendered hopeless by usury.

A EUROPEAN WAR.

Although much pains are taken in certain quarters in Europe to make the displeasure of Germany and Austria at the speech of Gen. Skobeleff appear to be not so deep or active as was first represented, there is no question that the feeling is profounder than many influential parties like to allow, and contains within it the active menace of war. Germany has expected too much of Russia, if she expects her to apologize for holding a particular national policy, called the Slav policy, much less to abandon it altogether. Russia, or any other nation, might be addressed with a request to suspend the operation or even the fresh announcement of its policy, but to abandon and abrogate it entirely—never.

So that the fire that is at present but poorly concealed in the slumbering embers is liable to break out at almost any time. The German press is engaged in vigorously fanning it to the extent of an outbreak. Turkey is silently watching the movements, and waiting for her opportunity. She knows that Western Europe will never sit quietly by and see her utterly dismembered without coming forward to assert its own important interest in the game. It looks as much like war as it does like peace, and it would surprise us but little if the tocsin be sounded at any time and on almost any provocation.

ANTI-POLYGAMY.

There was held, in Tremont Temple on Monday last, at noon, a large public meeting to give appropriate expression to the sentiment of this community on the subject of polygamy, and demand its immediate extirpation by the general governmeat. It was addressed very largely by well-known clergymen, and by others also. Polygamy was denounced as a social and moral evil and a menace to the country. There is no doubt on this point, and therefore the people were entreated to act without further delay. The bill now before Congress was referred to, and the hope that it would become a law was emphatically expressed.

A series of resolutions was reported, declaring polygamy to be a foul crime against our civil laws and against the health of human society; that the effects of this defiance of marriage laws do not stop in the Territories, but spread their polluting influence through the States, lowering the standard and enfeebling the sanctions of the laws of chastity; that each State and section is more or less degraded by the presence of Mormonism in our Western territories; that it is as punishable by the general government as it exists in Utah as it would be if it existed in the District of Columbia; that the failure of past efforts to suppress it only calls for more vigorous measures now; that something should be done with Mormonism now rather than suffer its further increase; and that the Edmunds bill ought to be passed.

CONGRESS.

The Indian affairs committee of the House has unanimously rejected a bill for giving Indian lands in severalty, thus leaving them no option but to hold them as tribes. Sundry committee reports were made in the Senate and appropriately referred,—among which were the Post Office appropriation bill and the bill defining the qualifications of territorial delegates in the House of Representatives. The tariff commission bill was considered in the Senate. The committee on woman suffrage was announced in the House, and a large number of bills were introduced. The anti-polygamy bill was before the House, after the Speakers had overruled the point, and been sustained in so doing, that it must have its first consideration in committee of the whole, as it provided for an appropriation. An effort has been made by the Ways and Means committee to reach the tariff commission bill. The measure relating to the reduction of international taxes is in the hands of the subcommittee. The President sent several nominations to the Senate. The report from the Reagan inter-State committee is expected to be submitted to the House shortly. A railroad commission bill looks more probable than the Reagan bill. The army appropriation bill was reported in the House; it provides for an appropriation of $27,431,698. The House passed the anti-polygamy bill as it came from the Senate, without amendment, by a vote of 199 to 42. The Senate passed a resolution appropriating $100,000 more for the relief of the sufferers by the Mississippi floods. The Chinese bill is under consideration by the House. A bill was introduced in the Senate, retiring officers in the federal army after certain periods of service.

THE LEGISLATURE.

An amendment to the Senate bill in relation to the sale of the State stock of the Boston and Albany Railroad was proposed in the House, prohibiting the State from voting on its stock on the question of the acceptance of the act, and in this form the bill was passed. To the petition for a law to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery an adverse report was made in the Senate. A bill was also reported in the same body, raising the salaries of the Superior Court Judges. The redistricting of the State engages much attention, though the matter is still in committee hands. The chief difficulty is in disposing of Boston. The bill for the formation of relief societies by the employe's of railroad and steamboat companies passed the House. The bill to raise the tracks of the Boston and Maine Railroad was debated on Thursday. The adverse report on the order relating to the powers of the Boston police commissioners was reconsidered in the Senate and laid on the table for further action. The committee hearings proceed, that on the State Normal Art School attracting the most attention. Petitions were presented in the House for a law against the adulteration of articles sold in markets. Notice was given in the House that when the elevated railroad bill was reached an amendment would be moved to include in the damages any consequential injury to property not taken, caused by operating such railway near such property. The Senate voted in favor of the resolve for a constitutional amendment to provide for biennial elections of State officers, and members of the Legislature. The House ordered to a third reading the bill reviving the prohibitory law of 1869, conditioned on its ratification by the people.

Mr. Gladstone's Position.—The resolution introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Gladstone, pronouncing the inquiry of the House of Lords into the working of the Land Act unwarranted by the facts and detrimental to the public interest, was passed after a considerable debate by a majority of 68; but not until he had caused it to be understood that a defeat of his motion would be taken as a vote of a want of confidence, which would compel his resignation of the Premiership. Mr. Gladstone holds that the Lords have no constitutional right to interfere with the legislation of the House of Commons in any manner, which is as much as to say that they are not a branch of the national legislature. But a year ago, when the same House of Lords amended the Land Act by giving the landlords the right to appeal from the decisions of the land courts to the regular courts of law, he raised no such objection as he now does in his resolution just passed by the House. It is simply because he does not like the result of the operation of that amendment, the land court decisions being reversed by the regular law courts, that he resists in this manner. Is by no means the only illustration of a custom that prevails everywhere, especially in our large cities. Debt itself is bad enough, but it is infinitely worse when it is rendered hopeless by usury.

☞ *Everett & Gleason's* Seed Catalogue for 1882 is a very neat and convenient pamphlet, handsomely issued from the press, which furnishes also a retail price-list of vegetable and flower seeds, herb, tree, and grass seeds, seed grain, and bulb seeds, flower roots, etc. This firm aims to supply seeds that are reliable, reaching as nearly perfection as possible. The stock of seeds offered by them is full and varied, the varieties being of the choicest and best, and carefully grown in the main from their own stocks and those of approved growers. Particular attention is invited to their list of vegetables and flowers. A study of their catalogues will be of very great help to all cultivators, and make every one who is not now one wish to be so at an early day. To run over a list like this is like being refreshed in a garden or field itself with the sight and scent of its productions.

☞ We have received instantaneous photographs, from Orestes Pierce, of his famous Jersey stock, Corona, Belle of Middlefield, and Mother and Son—Jersey Belle of Scituate and King of Scituate—which are on his farm at East Baldwin Me. They are truly splendid specimens of a milking stock, and their progeny would add wealth to any herd of Jerseys. Mr. Pierce's Boston address is 5 Pemberton Square.

"WONDERFUL, WONDERFUL MEDICINE!"—So exclaims a patient, Rev. J. S. Fesperman, of Statesville, North Carolina. Writing June 2d, 1880, he says: "In the providence of God I owe my present state of health to your Oxygen. I was near the gate of the grave, and, as I believe, close to the great portals of eternal life, *when I commenced taking what I now consider the greatest of all healing agents, Compound Oxygen.* I cannot refrain from saying, *'Wonderful wonderful, wonderful medicine!'* My physician and friends had believed that I could not live any length of time, and I am here yet, with my large family of children, and able to walk from three to four miles every morning. I can not speak in terms too high of your remedy." Our treatise on Compound Oxygen containing large reports of cases and full information, sent free. Drs. STARKEY & PALEN, 1109 and 1111 Girard St., Philadelphia, Pa.

For the Massachusetts Ploughman.

OBITUARY.

JOSEPH ANDERSON.

Joseph Anderson, of Shelburne, Western Franklin Co., Mass., one of the most distinguished farmers and stock-breeders of Massachusetts and New England, died on Friday morning, February 17, at his homestead, of bronchial consumption. He was born in 1796, on the farm where he died, and was of a family of eleven children, eight boys and three girls, Joseph being the ninth, in the order of birth, and had just entered upon his 84th year. He was graduated by Williams College in 1827, and like many New England graduates, entered upon the profession of teaching and preaching. His health failing, his family physician told him he must abandon his desires for professional pursuits, or die young. His love for life was such that he returned nearly fifty years ago to the farm where he was born, and with his brother Robert began to improve the farm and the live stock kept thereon.

Their special improvement of cattle was begun about thirty years ago. In this department of farming, Robert and Joseph Anderson gained a wide reputation as the "Anderson Brothers" in the breeding of crossbred shorthorns. They produced some of the best animals in this line of breeding that have ever been bred in Massachusetts. A few years since they sent a pair of three year old heifers to New York that greatly surprised New York butchers in consequence of their superior size and quality,; Western drovers, also, remarked that they had never seen such a pair of heifers in the West.

The first step of importance in the improvement of their stock was the purchase of a bull called "Northumberland," a Shorthorn, whose pedigree I am unable to give, but he greatly improved not only their own herd but the stock of many other farmers of Shelburne, the traces of which may still be seen on the grazing hill farms of that town.

But the great improvement was introduced by the purchase of "Roan Duke," undoubtedly the best Shorthorn bull ever owned in Massachusetts. John S. Anderson, the nephew of the Anderson Brothers, bought the Duke in Middlefield, where he had been confined in a cage for three years, no man daring to take him there from. John, than whom there are few better judges of cattle in New England and perhaps none, after examining "Roan Duke" in the cage and petting him a little, concluded to buy him and lead him to Shelburne, notwithstanding his reputation as being a very vicious, dangerous animal. After petting and fondling him he was taken from the cage and led by John to the farm of the Anderson Brothers, where he was kept as a stock-getter for many years. His progenitors were nearly pure Scotch, as the stock in Shelburne and contiguous towns, and Wilming ton, Vt., clearly show to-day. John S. Anderson says, "this bull has done more to put our stock in the front rank than all the other outcrosses." I often visited the Anderson Brothers, where I always met a most cordial welcome. They were justly proud of their fine stock, and especially of "Roan Duke," and his large and most attractive family. After having enjoyed the opportunity of visiting many herds of Shorthorns and cross-breds in New England, Middle and Western States, including those of R. S. Alexander, the Clays, the Bedfords, the Duncans, of Kentucky, and the herd of James Brown in Illinois, who had then lately removed to the Garden State from Kentucky, I speak advisedly when I say, that I never saw a better stock bull than "Roan Duke." So much was he prized by the Anderson family that they employed Marsden the fine animal painter, to paint a likeness of "Roan Duke," which adorns the parlor of their fine farm house. From year to year for a generation have they taken the first prizes at the Franklin County Fair at Greenfield and at the Hampshire, Hampden and Franklin Society at Northampton.

Though their herd was not technically called "thoroughbreds," yet, according to the primary intent of the word, it was thorough-bred, having been bred in a line by the most fixed of an ascertained type of the best blood. In confirmation of this, one fact must suffice in this sketch: a prize of $25 was lately offered by a member of the Franklin County Agricultural Society for the best bull and his get, of any breed; and there were on exhibition thoroughbred Shorthorn bulls and bulls of other breeds, and to a crossbred of the get of old "Roan Duke" from Wilmington, Vt., was the prize awarded.

The farm has been in the Anderson family since 1771, and formerly comprised 200 and now 400 acres. It has been greatly improved as well as enlarged by the Anderson Brothers and their nephew. The late Joseph Anderson having been bred a farmer and educated at Williams for a professional life, which his want of health would not allow him to pursue, he returned to the farm on which he was born and where he spent his life. His practical training on the farm, before he went to college, and his collegiate education, gifted him for a farmer of the highest order. His reputation and fame are widely known. He was fittingly called a scientific farmer, one who had learned his agricultural science from the practice of agriculture on the farm of the Anderson Brothers. But some one may say, or may have said, "I thought that agricultural science was intended to teach me how to farm, but the order is here reversed, for this makes the practice on or of the farm teach me the science of agriculture." Avoiding this misapprehension of agricultural science, Joseph Anderson was guided into the only safe course for obtaining sound agricultural information, such as was deduced from the practice of farming and a careful study of the conditions governing the production of good crops and good stock. Let men of science learn from farmers the science of their practice, for by so doing they will learn the true science of agriculture, instruction to farmers, such as shall lead to improvements in the application of science to farm practice. Such was Joseph Anderson's reading. In the loss of whom is deeply felt by his family and a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. It was his misfortune to have been blind for many years, and appalling headaches; all that long time not a murmur fell from the good man's lips. He was twice married, and his widow and five daughters survive him, to mourn the loss of the venerable husband and kind father, who came to his grave full of years and honors. He by reason of strength, reached by ripe old age, the term, recorded with four score years and more, which were passed in a useful and happy life at his rural home. A wide circle of friends sympathize with the bereaved family in their irreparable loss. *Requiescat in pace.* L. W.

— The negotiations for a treaty of peace between Chili and Peru have entered upon a hopeful stage. The chief difficulty is in finding a government anywhere in Peru to treat with.

— In his most perfect work of fiction, "Man and, " Wilkie Collins sets forth with wonderful power the gradually benumbing result that follows exclusive devotion to music, as well as the sudden outset of the actual disease, which penetrates to the very basis of the moral and intellectual natures, and becomes a settled condition of the mental and moral life.

— The spring cap is beginning to run from the maple trees.

—The estate of a deceased person in Illinois, which would not have paid the debts at the time of his death, has been in litigation for seven years, and now divides $12,900 among the heirs besides paying all legal expenses.

THE ACME PULVERIZING HARROW.—A correspondent of the "Country Gentleman" says of the "Acme" Pulverizing Harrow, Clod Crusher and Leveler: "An 'Acme' was offered me for trial on the condition that if it did not work well it was to be returned to the seller. We tried it, and on once going over the ground accomplished the work of both roller and harrow and more perfectly fitted the surface to receive the seed, than both could have done We would not dispose of it for twice its cost. I have no interest in the manufacture or sale, of either of the machines I have named, and only speak of them for the benefit of my fellow farmers, that they may try it, because I think that every farmer should have a knowledge of any tool which may prove a public benefit." The Harrow is now being advertised in the *Ploughman*.

BETTER THAN BARN YARD MANURE FOR SEEDING DOWN.

S. BELLINGHAM, MASS., Sept. 19, 1881.

We seeded down a half acre of land last spring which we thought was in very poor condition, as it has not had any manure on it within twenty-five years—and probably never had. We put on 300 pounds of Bradley's Phosphate, and have cut two good crops of grass this summer; not less than one and one-half tons in the two crops, and if the weather holds good shall be able to cut another. We think it is better than barn manure to seed down with. We have used it on corn and potatoes, with good success, and have grown the best onions we ever raised, when we used it at the rate of 400 pounds per acre.—E. PICKERING, SIMON PICKERING.

Now is the time to use Bradley's Phosphate in top-dressing your mowing and pasture lands.

☞ "Buy direct from the manufacturer," thus saving the intermediate profits, is the very sensible advice given by the Messrs. Dobson, in their attractive advertisement in this week's paper. Their elegant salesrooms are filled with the choicest and freshest patterns, which they offer at much less than the usual price at retail, and their goods are warranted as of best quality.

PONDER ON THESE TRUTHS.—Torpid kidneys and constipated bowels are the causes of chronic diseases.

Kidney Wort has cured thousands. Try it, and you will add one more to their number.

Habitual costiveness affects millions of the American people. Kidney-Wort will cure it.

Kidney-Wort has cured kidney complaints of thirty year's standing. Try it. See adv.

THAT RICH EXPERIENCE.

A Free Press Interview Sustained and Its Source Revealed.

(*Detroit Free Press.*)

A few months ago an interview with a prominent and well known physician, formerly a resident of Detroit, but now living in New York, appeared in the columns of this paper. The statements made by the doctor and the facts he divulged were of so unusual a nature as to cause no little commotion among those who read them, and many inquiries were raised as to the genuineness of the interview and the validity of the statements it contained. The name of the physician was at that time suppressed at his own request. The seal of secrecy, however, can now be removed, as the important and interesting letter which appears below will abundantly show. In order, however, that the reader may better understand this letter, a few extracts are here given from the interview in question.

After an exchange of courtesies and a few reminiscences about the war, in which the doctor was a prominent surgeon, the reporter remarked upon the doctor's improved appearance, upon which he said:

"Yes, I have improved in health since you last saw me, and I hope soon to be many other ways. One thing, however, I have succeeded in doing, and it is one of the hardest things for any one, and especially a doctor, to do, and that is, I have overcome my prejudices. I don't know there are some people who prefer to remain in the wrong rather than acknowledge the manifest right. Such prejudice leads to bigotry of the worst order. Now, I am a physician, and of the 'old school' order, too; but I have, after years of experience and observation, come to the conclusion that truth is the highest of all things, and all prejudice or bigotry stand in the way of truth, so much the worse for them—they are certain to be crushed sooner or later. Why, when I knew you in Detroit, I would no sooner have thought of violating the code of ethics laid down by the professor, or of prescribing anything out of the regular order, than I would of amputating my hand. Now, however, I prescribe and advise those things which I believe to be adapted to cure, and which my experience has proven to be such."

"How did you come to get such heretical ideas as those, doctor?"

"Oh, they are the result of my experience and observation. I obtained my first ideas upon the subject, though, from having been cured after all my care and the skill of my professional brethren had failed to relieve me. Why, I was a bodily off as many of my patients, with a complication of troubles, including dyspepsia, and consequently imperfect kidneys and liver, and I feared I should have to give up my practice. For years I suffered untold agonies. Dull, indefinite pains in various parts of the body; a lack of interest in everything around me; a loss of appetite; headaches; all that disagreeable symptoms were added to pains which were both acute and constant. Sick as I was, however, I became inspired to health in a most surprising manner. After suffering during the space of time, and it was this that proved a revelation to me. That was the starting point, and my prejudice first received a shock from which I never recovered. I went to reading extensively, and analysing more extensively, and since that time I have discovered many things of real value to assure you. I went to reading extensively, and a lady who was suffering from a serious female difficulty and displacement to use the same remedy which cured me. She followed her directions carefully and well; the pain and inflammation are all gone and she is around as usual. We have no right in the medical fraternity to sit quietly down when there is a new door to improvement or advancement, or that we have a monopoly of the remedies which nature has given to mankind. There are great changes going on in every department of life, and there are great developments in medicine as well. Thousands of people die every year from supposed typhoid fever, rheumatism or other complaints, when in reality it is from trichina, caused from eating poorly cooked and diseased pork. Thousands of children are dying every year from dropsy as the apparent sequel to scarlatina, when in reality it is from diseased kidneys which have become weakened by the fever they have just had."

"Well, doctor, you have got some new truths here, certainly, but they sound very reasonable to me."

"Well, whether they are reasonable or not, I have demonstrated to my own satisfaction that what I have published is correct, and I care not, no matter how much opposition I may raise by doing so. Any man, be he politician, preacher or physician, who is not conducting a patent medicine book or of his own personal ends as to stultify himself by suppressing the manifest truth, is unworthy the name of man, and unworthy the confidence of the public whom he serves."

The above are some of the principal points in the interview referred to. Now for the sequel. The following outspoken letter from the doctor mentioned which has just been received is published in full:

Editor Detroit Free Press:

Some time ago a reporter of your paper had an interview with me which he said he would live to publish. I consented on condition that you would not mention my name until I gave you permission. I have now accomplished the purpose I had in mind, and wish to say to you (which you can publish or not as you see fit), that I had delayed for a long time whether I would shake off some of the professional fetters which bound me with others for years, and tell the truth, or not. When I looked back, and thought of the tortures, like those described by Dante in his trip to the infernal regions, which I endured from dyspepsia, and recalled how much I could have given at that time for one relief which I have since obtained, I determined that I would take the step so long meditated, and thereby discharge a duty to my fellow men. It could not be that I was the only one in one night of the terrible suffering I endured, I would be fully satisfied, be the other consequences what they might.

My dyspeptic condition was pronoced by a torpid liver, which did not, as a consequence, remove the bile from the blood. This produced constipation, piles, insomnia, blue devils, and its costs, dyspepsia, constipation, headache, depression of spirits, yellow complexion, fatty degeneration of the heart, and fever; in short, I was miserable to the last degree. I appealed in vain to my books, to my skill and to my fellow physicians. The mystery of my ill-health grew deeper. I travelled everywhere—tried almost all author sed expedients—but to no purpose!

When in this frame of mind, desperately in need of help, but expecting none, one of my unprofessional friends called my attention to some unusual cures wrought by a prominent remedy and urged me to try it. I emphatically declined. But seeing, and with a firm determination that I would never let anybody know what I had done, I began its use. It was only an experiment, you know, but for that matter, all medical treatment is experimental. Well, to make a long, and surprising story short, I experienced a sort of physical revolution. My skin got a better color. My liver resumed its proper duties. I no longer had to arouse the bowels with cathartics. My headaches disappeared with my dyspepsia; but still I was not convinced. "Nature did it," was my remark. I continued to push the investigation to the extreme, while I was in active work, I tried the effect of the remedy on my patients, suffering from kidney, liver, and urinary diseases, watching every development carefully and studiously. Then I was completely disarmed, for the remedy stood every test imposed.

Under such convincing circumstances, the matter of confessing my cure became a question of conscience and duty to humanity. "Here is the remedy," said I, "that has done for me what the best medical skill of the country could not accomplish,"—and as an honorable man I will not suppress the fact. Therefore with pleasure and most unhesitatingly assert that for all diseases of the kidneys, liver, stomach or urinary organs which are amenable to treatment, Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver Cure surpasses any remedy I have ever known or used, and since physicians have so much ill success in the treatment of diseases of these organs, I am prepared to accept all the consequences when I say that they are, it conscientious, in duty bound to use this pure vegetable compound in their practice.

Yours very truly, J. W. SAYRE, M. D.

Statements so outspoken as the above and coming from such a reliable source are valuable beyond question. They conclusively show not only the power of the remedy which has become so well known and popular, but the great importance of attention in time to the first indications of disordered kidneys. When professional men of such high standing sink their prejudice and willingly declare their belief in that which they know to be valuable, the public may confidently follow their example.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, March 4th, by Rev. W. H. Downe, John G. Jackson of Cambridge to Ada C. Tower of this city.

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In Royalston, Mass., March 8th, by Rev. Wilbur Johnson, Mr. John L. King to Miss Marion H. Wellman, all of Royalston.

In Wiscasset, Me., March 6th, by Rev. J. T. Crosby, George E. Emery of Boston, Mass., to Alma Cozzens of Wiscasset, Me.

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In Saco, Me., March 8th, Mary, wife of Abraham Cutter, 86 years.

"BECAME SOUND AND WELL."

B. F. PIERCE, M. D.: *Dear Sir*—My wife, who had been ill for over two years, and had tried many other medicines, became sound and well by using your "Favorite Prescription." My niece was also cured by its use, after several physicians had failed to do her any good.

Yours truly,

THOMAS J. METHVIN,
Hatcher's Station, Ga.

LABOR SAVING.—The demand of the people for an easier method of preparing Kidney-Wort has induced the proprietors, the well known wholesale druggists, Wells, Richardson & Co., of Burlington, Vt., to prepare it for sale in liquid form as well as in dry form. It saves all the labor of preparing, and as it is equally efficient it is preferred by many persons. Kidney-Wort always and everywhere proves itself a perfect remedy.—*Buffalo News.*

"BUCHUPAIBA."

Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and Urinary Diseases. $1. Druggists. mch11-y

☞ Chew Jackson's Best Sweet Navy Tobacco

☞ Agents can grasp a fortune. Outfit worth $10 sent free. For full particulars address H. G. RIDOUT & Co., 10 Barclay St. N. Y. nov12 52t

SKINNY MEN.

"Wells' Health Renewer" restores health and vigor, cures Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Debility, $1. mch11-y

No TROUBLE TO SWALLOW DR. PIERCE'S "Pellets" (the original "little liver pills") and no pain or griping. Cure sick or bilious headache, sour stomach, and cleanse the system and bowels. 25 cents a vial.

Domestic Markets.

WHOLESALE PRICES.

BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET.

Flour—We quote nominally as follows: Fine at $3 75@4 00 per bbl; superfine at $4 25@4 75 ₱ bbl; common extras at $5 00@5 75; choice extras at $6 50; Canada superior at $6 25@6 35; Minnesota bakers' at $7 25@7 50 ₱ bbl; Ohio and Indiana at $6 75@7 25; Michigan at $6 50@6 75 ₱ bbl; St. Louis and Southern Illinois at $6 00@6 50; choice Minnesota and Wisconsin spring wheat patents at $8 25@8 75, with some fancy brands held at $9 00, and winter wheat patents at $7 50@8 00 ₱ bbl. Corn meal is dull and quiet at $3 10@3 15 ₱ bbl, with rye flour dull and easy at $5 25@5 50 ₱ bbl in a small way. Oatmeal is quiet and steady at $6 50 ₱ bbl for fine and $7 00@7 25 ₱ bbl for coarse.

Corn.—Market strong, with holders firm at an advance. We quote old high mixed at 80c asked; No. 2 mixed and steamer yellow at 79c asked; steamer mixed at 78c asked, and good no grade at 76@77c, according to quality and location.

Oats.—But little change in the market, sales of No. 2 white being reported at 58c. We quote nominally as follows: Extra white and mixed oats at 59½@60c ₱ bush; No. 1 white at 58½@59c; No. 2 white at 57½@58c; No. 3 white at 56½@56c, No. 2 mixed at 56½@57c, with little space of time, and it was this that proved a revelation to me. That was the starting point, and my prejudice first received a shock from which I never recovered. Yours truly, J. W. SAYRE, M. D.

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Habitual costiveness affects millions of the American people. Kidney-Wort will cure it.

Kidney-Wort has cured kidney complaints of thirty year's standing. Try it. See adv.

$66 a week in your own town. Terms and $5 outfit free. Address H. HALLETT & Co., Portland, Me. dec1-52eow

Cattle Markets.

BRIGHTON AND WATERTOWN.

Reported expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman

FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 18.

Amount of Stock at market:—

	Beeves.	Sheep.	Shoats	Fat Hogs.	Veals
This week.	3466	9,004	191	17,197	661
Last week.	3021	8,904	156	14,079	484
One yr ago.	3230	11,443	75	9,293	473

Horses.....130

Prices.

Beef—per 100 lbs. on total weight of hide, tallow and meat, extra, $8 00@8 50; first quality, $7 00@7 50; second quality, $6 00@6 50; third quality, $4 50@5 75; a few choice single pairs, $8 75@9 50; some of the poorest, bulls, &c., $4 00@4 75.

Working Oxen.—$100@165 ₱ ; @ handy steers, $60@80 or much according to their value for beef.

Cows and Young Calves.—Fair quality, $30 @45; extra, $40@48; farrow and dry, $18@34.

Veal Calves.—3½@4c ₱ lb.

Sheared sheep—Per lb, live, 3½ cts; extra 3½ @3¾c. Sheep and Lambs ₱ head, in lots, $3 50@4 50 @. Lambs 5@5c ₱ lb. Sheared Sheep— @ c. Spring Lambs @ c ₱ lb.

Fat Hogs.—Per lb 7½@7¾cts, live we

ION SEED,

RANTED ALL NEW SEED.

wn by Daniel Buxton. $6.00 per lb. 5-lb per lb.
also Seed grown on an adjoining farm, by

nion Growers in Danvers,

ally for us, with the view of giving our

RUE GLOBE SHAPE ONION

ancy price. $4.00 per lb; 5-lb lots at $3.75
e no California or Cheap Seed.
for Catalogue.

KER & CANNETT,
TON and SPRINGFIELD.

SEEDS AND PLANTS,

Catalogues of Seeds and Plants are to send to all who apply. Sent to without writing. Our Stock of Vege- Farm Seeds comprises all the BEST desirable kinds for market or home or stock of Flower Seeds is unsur- the finest variet es and choice Novel- also offer the most extensive collection nd Rare Plants to be found in this

OVEY & CO.,
OUTH MARKET ST., BOSTON, MASS. 16

ICE'S NEW ONION SEED,

from the finest and most perfect seed which are carefully selected by hand.
BRANTED TO GROW
receipt of seed, and if not satisfactory to us and amount paid refunded. Being ceivers we can save you the profits. Write us, before ordering for special prices, and state kinds and anted. Address JEROME B. RICE & dge, N. Y.
ce Valley Seed Gardens.) mch11-2t

AM SIBLEY & CO.

ill mail FREE their Cata- ue for 1882, containing a ll descriptive Price List of lower, Field and Garden

EEDS

lbs, Ornamental Grasses, d Immortelles, Gladiolus, lias, Roses, Plants, Garden plements. Beautifully illus- ated. Over 100 pages. Address

ESTER, N.Y. & CHICAGO, ILL
East Main St. 200-206 Rar aph St

owy

S We give more and better plants for the money than any other house in the country. Catalogue for 1882 free to all. Send for one and see the beautiful pictures we offer. MILLER & ights Grove, Chicago. feb24-8t

T. SMALL PRICES. T. JOHNSTON & CO. FREE

ow4t

ble Manure,

BES and other FERTILIZERS.
in hand and for sale at the lowest market.
W. H. DOLE,
and Congress Sts., South Boston.

Your Name in GOLD Printed On All Fancy Lettering Cards Printed On All Fancy Cards. The most Elegant Pack ever published-free to every one sending 25 cts. for a price list, a Illustrated Premium List, and Sample Book & 100 samples of cards. STEVENS BROTHERS, Northford, Conn. 7t

N PROVISION MARKET.

Market firmer, and there is more trade. ob lots long eat at $20 00@20 50 ₰ bbl; ort at $20 00@20 50; backs at $21 00 nt ends at $19 00@19 50 do. mess at $19 00; prime mess, at $18 00@18 50. dy at 11½@11¾c in tierces; 11½@12c ₰ lb for kegs and 12½@13c for pails. ms bring 12½@13c; Western do at 11½@12c; pickled hams at 12½@13c; smoked shoulders are sold at 8½ moked ribs at 8½@9c ₰ lb. Dressed s at 9½@10c ₰ lb for choice city dressed, rn dressed at 8½@9c.

ices are fairly main ained. We quote 9 50@10 50 ₰ bbl; extra mess at $11 50 mily and extra cuts, $14 00@15 00; at $13 00@13 50; beef hams at $21 50 eef tongues, in pails, at $20 00@21 00, bbls at $9 50@10 00. Fresh beef— l, but there is no change in prices; ters at 7½@8c ₰ lb. Hinds at 9@ at 5@7½c; ratties at 5½@6½c; ribs at 6¾ 10c; loins at 11@13c; rounds at 8@9c; at 12@14c, with some choice grades t loins at 10@16c, with choice grades ₰ lb. In other fresh meats trade is except in veal in which there is a ply and considerable inquire. We heavy mutton at 8@9c ₰ lb; com- ed, 6½@6¾c ₰ lb; choice lamb at 8½@ on to good at 6@8c; choice veal brings nd common, 6@7c.

ON BUTTER MARKET.

choice freshly-made Western cr amery lc per lb, with some fancy marks here fresh new-milk Vermont dairy at th common to good at 25@30c; Western factory at 28@33c, selec- ry common to good do at 18@22c; 12@16c; Canada at 20@28c, while butter brings 25@30c, according to

ON CHEESE MARKET.

e at 12½@13¼c for choice Northern h fancy at 1c more, while the best mmands 12@12½c, with fancy at 13c, m goods are slow at 10@11c, with her Western goods nominally 6@10c.

STON EGG MARKET.

ket shows little change. We quote 19@20c; Northern at 19@20c; 19@19½c and Western at 19@19½c.

Y MARKET, BOSTON.

Retail Prices.

Corrected for the Ploughman, for the week ending Mar. 15.

BEEF, &c.			
Sirloin, ₰ lb	20@22	Beef Liver	7@8
Porterhouse	20@22	Beef Tongue	10@12
Ribs	13@16	Corned Beef	7@12
Chuck	10@12	Smoked Beef	12@14
Rump	16@18	Beef Tongue, salt	10@14
Pork, Lard, &c.			
Pork	11@12	Smoked Should's	9@10
Spare-ribs	11@12	Smoked Ribs	9@10
Salt Pork	11@12	Sausages	11@12
Fresh Pork	11@12	Pigs' Feet	6@7
Lard, leaf	11@12	Lard, tierces	11@11½
Veal and Mutton			
Veal	12@15	Mutton, ₰ bunch	10@20
Mutton, shoulder	10@12	Mutton, chops	10@12
Mutton, leg	10@12	Sp'g Lamb, h & s	25@50
Poultry, Game, &c.			
Turkeys	18@20	Pigeons, wild, doz.	50
Chickens	18@20	Pheasants, doz.	6 00
Fowls	18@20	Rabbits, wild, pair	50
Ducks	18@20	Widgeon, pair	50 & 75
Geese	18@20	Teal, ₰ pair	75
Eggs, fresh, ₰ doz	18@22	Snipe, doz	3 00@4 00
Eggs, limed	15@18	Quail, doz	4 00
Pigeons, pair	25	Plover, doz	4 00
Pigeons, doz	2 00	Rabbits, each	15
Chickens, pair	75@1 00	Venison, ₰ lb	10@25
Fowls, pair	75@1 00	Antelope	25
Ducks, pair	75@1 00	Figs, roasting	3@4 00
Geese, each	75@1 00	Ice Cream, ₰ qt	2 00
Turkeys, each	1 00@1 50	Ice Cream, ₰ doz	1 50
Butter, Cheese, &c.			
Butter, ₰ lb	25@30	Fair to good do	15@17
Cheese	12@13	Farm	11@14
Fruit and Vegetables		**Seeds.**	
Apples, ₰ bbl	3 00@4 00	Cape	6@8
Apples, ₰ peck	25@50	Eastern	6@7
Apples, ₰ qt	5@10	Northern	6@7
Apples, dried, ₰ lb	3@5	Western	3@5
Apples, evaporated	8@10	**Vegetables**	
Apples, sliced	5@6	Tomatoes, lb	4@5
Peaches, dried	8@10	Cucumbers, ea	10@25
Peaches, canned	15@20	Onions, bbl	3 50@4 00
Citrons, each	10@15	Onions, ₰ lb	4@5
Potatoes, bush	75@1 00	Onions, pickling, qt	10
Sweet Pot's, ₰ lb	5@10	Onions, Spanish	10
Turnips, peck	20@25	Onions, Bermuda	10
Beets, bush	1 00@1 25	Onions, Egyptian	10
Beans, White, dry, pk	87 ½@1 00	Onions, Portugal	10
Lima, quart	8@10	Onions, Valencia	10
Cabbages, each	5@10	Onions, Red	10
Carrots, peck	25@40	Onions, Silver Skin	10
Parsnips, pk	25@40	Onions, Yellow	10
Onions, per pk	40@50	Onions, Pickling, qt	10
Cauliflowers	5@15	Onions, Spring, bunch	5
Celery, ₰ root	5@10	Onions, Spring, doz	50
Lettuce, ₰ head	5@10	Peppers, ₰ doz	10
Squashes	5@10	Pumpkins	5@10
Hubbard, ₰ lb	5	Radishes, bunch	5
Marrow, ₰ lb	5	Rhubarb, ₰ lb	5
Turban	5	Spinach, peck	25
Cucumbers, ea	5@10	Tomatoes, ₰ lb	10@15
Egg Plants, ea	10@15	Turnips, bunch	5
Herbs, gr'n, b'h	5	Turnips, ₰ peck	25
Pickles, ₰ gallon	50	Vegetable Oysters	10
Cucumbers	15@25	Watercress, bunch	5
Martinoes	15	Watermelons	15@25
Limes	5	Lychees, bottle	25
Lychees, bottle, imp, box	25	Artichokes, ea	10@15
Peaches, ₰ can	15@20	Asparagus, ₰ bunch	10@15
Rhubarb, ₰ lb	5	Asparagus, ₰ can	15@20
Artichokes, ea	10@15	Beets, ₰ bunch	5

READ AND RUN.

— Angora, in Asia Minor, was last year devastated by locusts, and the Governor, to avoid a repetition of the calamity, ordered every able-bodied peasant, during a certain period preceding the locust-hatching season, to collect locust eggs at the rate of two pounds weight each day, and deliver them to the nearest local authorities. But they shirked their duty, compounded with officials, and left as fine a crop of locusts as ever for the coming season.

— A learned writer in the London Times shows that our Lord's resurrection, the first Easter, occurred on April 9th, on which day we shall this year celebrate its anniversary.

— According to the testimony of an ex-professor of mathematics in a Russian University, who escaped from Liberia a few months since, it is not such a very difficult thing for an exile to escape from Liberia, under certain circumstances. It is more an affair of money than anything else, the distance being so great and the population so sparse that very close police surveillance is impossible. But escape from penal servitude is a terrible undertaking, and is rarely accomplished.

— In boring for the tunnel under the English Channel, the complete dryness of the rock surprises all. The ventilation of the tunnel, which is but seven feet in diameter and extends 1000 yards under the sea, is said to be more wonderful still. The air at the head of the boring is described as far purer and pleasanter to breathe than the air of any London street.

— It is asked if Illinois is not rich enough to provide for the sufferers by flood in Pulaski county instead of leaving it to the Secretary of War to send food rations to them.

— The latest fashion in riding habits for ladies require that they shall be fitted by a tailor.

— Candy venders who offer prizes in their packages are invited to put the cost of the prizes into the quality of their candy.

— An international fisheries exhibition is to be held in Edinburgh next month, to follow in its scope and purpose the one held in Berlin. It will be very full in the department of local or Scottish fisheries. The twelve classes into which the exhibition is to be divided will include all kinds of fish, fishing boats and tackle, fish-breeding, passes, stairs and ladders to assist fish in their ascent of rivers, tinned and pickled fish, salted and smoked fish, fish manures, the history and literature of fishing, the pollution and cleansing of rivers, exhibits of the social condition of fishermen, aquatic flora and fauna, and all products of the sea. The time for receiving the exhibits is from March 27th to April 4, and there will be numerous medals and prizes.

— The bankruptcy bill reported by the Judiciary Committee is a comparatively brief and simple measure, its central principle being the trial of the claim of a bankrupt to a compulsory discharge of his indebtedness by the District Courts of the United States, assisted by a standing or special Master in Chancery, who may hear interlocutory matter.

— The manufacture of ostrich feathers has become one of the growing industries of New York.

— It has lately been said that it is next to impossible for the law-makers of Virginia to make laws without recourse to "the code." Not long since it was stated that nearly one-sixth of the members of the Legislature were amenable to the laws against duelling.

— If, remarks a speculative writer in a leading daily journal, as prehistoric geographers contend, the area now occupied by the Indian Ocean was once the seat of a densely populated continent, it is very possible that some historical relation may be finally made out between the primitive races of the great continents on the surface of the globe; but at the present juncture, there is not even sufficient basis for the most shadowy impression to that effect.

— A tree of enormous size was blown down in New Zealand not many months ago, which was believed to be many hundred years old, and within which were piles of human bones. From the roots to the first branch the tree measured forty five feet, the whole of which was hollow and within which space were packed the human bones.

— Pr.vidence is arousing itself to the advantage of an ocean steamship line to Europe.

— Minister Lowell is to visit Manchester to inquire into the allegation of the cotton spinners in regard to the adulteration of cotton from the United States.

— From Cairo to Vicksburg it is one vast waste of water, in consequence of the rise of the Mississippi River.

— Millbury, Mass., has just sustained a heavy loss by fire.

— The collection of paintings made by the late Alvin Adams, the founder of the Adams Express, was sold in this city at auction this week, after a free exhibition to the public.

— The re-districting of the State has become an enterprise of much moment at the State House.

— The star-route indicted men have all found bail without any difficulty.

— The Governor's Fast Day in Massachusetts again comes on the day before Good Friday. The same thing happened when Gov. Andrew was the State Executive.

— Barnum made a dazzling display of his great moral show in the streets of New York, last Saturday night. It was lighted by 1,200 torches and an endless line of calcium lights and fireworks.

— The Public Health Committee of the Legislature has reported a bill providing that employers shall provide seats for work girls.

— The new Vanderbilt house in New York is described as commonplace in design as respects the exterior, while the interior has an elegance which has not before been approached in this country.

— Mr. John B. Gough has lost his voice in great part, and is about to give over lecturing forever.

— A distinct school of American cookery is demanded, which shall not leave out of the bill either salads or soups.

— Recent investigation has disclosed the fact that nearly six hundred of the employes of the city of Boston do not draw their own pay, their salaries being paid over to others to whom they have been forced to assign them for moneys advanced at high rates of interest.

— Navigation is open for the entire length of the waters of Michigan.

— As soon as the bill of exceptions is ready, Scoville, it is stated, will retire finally from the Guiteau case.

— The petitions from Utah against the anti polygamy bill before Congress are said to bear the names of hundreds of children, the whole being the work of the Mormon church authorities.

— Whales are reported to have been of late sporting off shore between Hatteras and the Delaware Capes.

—Bonciault's ideal Irishmen have been called by a critic almost too good for any place outside of heaven.

— The famous sugar case before the Supreme Court of the United States had been decided in favor of the importers, to whom some two million of dollars will be restored in duties. The Court has decided that the plain meaning of the law is, that the color test is the final and only test, no matter whether no color has been artificially produced or not; and that of the law fails to accomplish its purpose, it lies with Congress to amend it. This sum of money is simply the penalty which the Government is obliged to pay for postponing for two years the task of amending tariff laws whose absurdity is so obvious.

— Growers of tobacco are the only persons in the country who cannot dispose of their crops how and where they please. A farmer cannot sell his tobacco at all save to a licensed dealer, or by himself getting out a license.

— The directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad say, in their annual report, that the American line of steamers running from Philadelphia to Liverpool Britain cannot henceforth rely on the pecuniary support given it by the railway company.

— Victor Hugo has protested in a public letter against the sentences passed upon the Nihilists at St. Petersburg.

— A Spaniard, crazed with rum, attempted to swim from Key West to Havana, and was picked up by a schooner when over three miles out at sea.

— Italy now permits the exercise of suffrage to all male adult citizens who can read and write. Universal suffrage has thus supplanted in that country the old system under which only some six hundred thousand men had the right to vote.

— The Jews of New York city have met and conquered the difficulties raised by the Russian persecution and the consequent exodus of the race from Russia, by perfecting the organization of an aid society, intends to assist their suffering brethren impounding new homes and taking a new start in life in a country where such persecutions are impossible. It is called the Russian Emigrant Aid Society, and it proposes to raise half a million dollars to meet the emergencies that have thus arisen.

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The subscriber offers his Farm of 100 acres for sale, situated in the easterly part of Marlboro, Mass., 24 miles from Boston; good location; 14 story House with L.; Barn 40x60, with cellar, Hennery and Carriage House, all in good repair; land well divided; cuts 30 tons of hay; keeps 16 head of cattle and 4 horses; plenty of wood and fruit, and a never failing well of water at the house.

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A GOOD steady boy or young man to go on a milk wagon; steady employment by the year. Also a man with family to work on farm.
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Wanted,

BY an experienced farmer a situation as Foreman on a Farm, to commence work April 1st; wife a good dairy woman; no children; good references. Address
Box 89,
Wayland, Mass.
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Wanted.

25 Young Gentlemen and 12 young ladies to learn the Telegraph profession and take situations this Spring and Summer. Salaries, when competent, from $40 to $100 per month. This Institution is the largest, most thorough and best equipped Telegraph College in the country. A limited number of vacancies now open. No positions are given unless the applicant can begin immediately. For full particulars apply personally or address with stamp, BOSTON TELEGRAPH INSTITUTE, 238 and 231 Washington Street, Boston.
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It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaints, all ovarian troubles, Inflammation and Ulceration, Falling and Displacements, and the consequent Spinal Weakness, and is particularly adapted to the Change of Life.

It will dissolve and expel tumors from the uterus in an early stage of development. The tendency to cancerous humors there is checked very speedily by its use.

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That feeling of bearing down, causing pain, weight and backache, is always permanently cured by its use.

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JOHNSON'S
Indian Blood Syrup.

CURES *Dyspepsia, Liver Diseases, Fever & Ague, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Heart Disease, Biliousness, Nervous Debility, etc.*

The Best REMEDY KNOWN to Man!

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This Syrup possesses Varied Properties.

It stimulates the Pyaline in the Saliva, which converts the Starch and Sugar of the food into glucose. A deficiency in Pyaline causes Wind and Souring of the food in the stomach. If the medicine is taken immediately after eating the fermentation of food is prevented.

It acts upon the Liver.
It acts upon the Kidneys.
It Regulates the Bowels.
It Purifies the Blood.
It Quiets the Nervous System.
It Promotes Digestion.
It Nourishes Sweetness and Invigorates.
It carries off the Old Blood and makes new.
It opens the pores of the skin and induces Healthy Perspiration.

It neutralizes the hereditary taint, or poison in the blood, which generates Scrofula, Erysipelas, and all blotches of skin diseases and internal humors.

There are no mercurials employed in the manufacture, and it can be taken by the most delicate babe, or by the aged and feeble, *are only being required in addition to directions.*

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Universal suffrage has thus supplanted in that country the old system under which only some six hundred thousand men had the right to vote.
Dr. Clark Johnson's Indian Blood Syrup has entirely relieved me of severe Pains in my Kidneys. I cannot recommend it too highly.
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The advantages of the "Cassaday" Sulky Plow are:
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2. Can turn square corners without throwing the Plow out of the ground.
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4. All the weight carried on the wheels.
5. For hard, dry, rough and stony ground has no equal.
6. Opens or finishes a land to perfection, doing the work uniformly well.

ANDOVER, Dec. 1, 1881.
I bought a Cassaday Sulky Plow in August and a second one in November, and I am much pleased with its working on old ground, green sward, smooth or stony land, hilly or flat land.
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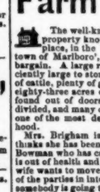

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Farm for Sale.

The well-known and highly productive property known as the Moses Bigham place, in the southwesterly part of the town of Marlboro', Mass., is offered for sale at a bargain. A large roomy House, a good Barn, sufficiently large to store hay for and shelter thirty head of cattle, plenty of good water, abundance of fruit, eight-three acres of as good farming land as can be found out of doors, all well fenced and suitably divided, and many other attractive features make it one of the most desirable places in this neighborhood.

Mrs. Brigham is eighty-seven years of age, and thinks she has been long enough on the Farm. Mr. Bowman who has carried it on for several years past, is out of health and determined to quit farming. His wife wants to move up into the village, and all three of the parties in interest are determined to sell, and somebody is going to get a bargain.

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mch11-tf

A Farm for Sale.

The Farm of the late Amos Batchelder of North Reading, situated on the turnpike from Andover to Boston, about three minutes walk from the Depot. The buildings consist of a large two story House with an Ell, painted and blinded; a large Barn with sheds. The Farm contains sixty acres or more divided into tillage, pasturing and woodland, and a good cranberry meadow which bears large crops yearly and can be increased with very little expense, as there is a plenty of sand near by and can be made a profitable crop. For further particulars apply to WARREN NICHOLS, near the Farm, or to JAMES FLINT, Middleton. mch11-4t

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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.---BOSTON, SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1882.

The Poet's Corner.

THE WATER MILL.

BY D. C. MACALLUM.

Oh! listen to the water mill, through all the live-long day,
As the clicking of the wheels wears hour by hour away;
How languidly the autumn wind doth stir the withered leaves,
As on the field the reapers sing while binding up the sheaves;
A solemn proverb strikes my mind, and as a spell it cast
"The mill will never grind again with water that is past."

Soft summer winds revive no more leaves strewn o'er earth and main,
The sickly never more will reap the yellow-garnered grain,
The rippling stream flows ever on, aye tranquil, deep and still,
But never glided back again to busy water mill.
The solemn proverb speaks to all, with meaning deep and vast,
"The mill will never grind again with water that is past."

Oh! clasp the proverb to thy soul, dear loving heart and true,
For golden years are flosting by, and youth is passing too.
Ah! learn to make the most of life, nor lose one happy day,
For time will ne'er return sweet joys, neglected, thrown away;
Nor leave one tender word unsaid, thy kindness throw broadcast;
"The mill will never grind again with water that is past."

Oh! the wasted hours of life, the hours swift drifted by!
Alas! the good we might have done, all gone without a sigh;
Love that we might once have saved by a single kindly word;
Thoughts conceived, but ne'er expressed, perishing unpenned, unheard;
Oh! take the lesson to thy soul, forever clasp it fast;
"The mill will never grind again with water that is past."

Oh! love thy God and fellow-men—this comprehendeth all
High heaven's universal plan—here let us prostrate fall;
The wise, the ignorant may read the simple lesson taught,
All mystery or abstruse creed compared therewith are naught.
Oh! brothers on! in deeds of love, for life is fleeting fast,
"The mill will never grind again with water that is past."

Ladies' Department.

THE MURDERER'S ORDEAL.

BY CLARENCE MOWBRAY.

I was always fond of the science of physiognomy. From my youth up I was noted for my proclivity for reading the character of a man from his face; and I finally became such an adept in the art, that I could occasionally guess the very thoughts of the individual whose countenance I was studying.

Soon after the gold fever broke out, I went to California; and there, I must confess, among what else there was to interest me, I had a grand opportunity for exercising my skill upon all sorts of faces, seen under all sorts of circumstances, from the highest triumph of success to the deepest despair of failure. I first tried my luck at digging gold myself; but soon tired of that; and believing I could make money faster and with less labor, I opened a kind of grocery and provision store, and regularly took to the business of trade, buying most of my articles at Sacramento, getting them hauled to my quarters, and disposing of them at a fair advance to the miners and others.

My store, as I dignified my place of trade, consisted of a rude skeleton of poles, with a sufficiency of cheap muslin drawn over them and pinned down to the ground, and was stocked only with the most salable articles—of which flour, pork and whiskey found the most ready market—especially whiskey. In the dry season it was very dusty, and everybody seemed to be dry with a thirst which mere water would not quench. If a man was successful, he wanted whiskey to bring his body up to the altitude of his spirits; if unsuccessful, he wanted whiskey to bring his spirits up to the altitude of his body; if it chanced to be a little cool, he wanted whiskey to warm him; he needed whiskey in the morning to make him bright and active; he needed whiskey at night to rest him and make him sleep well; he wanted it when he bought, and when he sold; when he won, and when he lost; when he stood up, and when he sat down;—in short, whiskey was the great regulator of all human feeling—the genuine *elixir vitæ*—and consequently I did an immense business in whiskey.

Now this, though somewhat irrelevant, brings me to my story.

My store being the headquarters of that locality for whiskey and provisions, I was brought in contact with nearly every specimen of the *genus homo* in that region; and such another conglomeration of white, black and red—such another mixture of gentlemen, laborers, mountaineers, gamblers, thieves and assassins—it would be hard to find outside the limits of California. Of course I had a chance to study all sorts of faces to my heart's content; but having, as I have said, become an adept in the art, an ordinary countenance, or a man governed by ordinary passions, whether gentle or brutish, did not interest me. I wanted to get hold of what is termed a character—or one whose external would give no indication of his internal to any but a connoisseur—or one that would really puzzle you to tell what to think of him.

Among the many, such a one I at length found. At first I did not notice him—did not think of him. At a casual glance there was nothing to distinguish him from the herd. He came in quietly, unobtrusively, purchased a quantity of flour, pork and tea, paid for the same in gold dust, and went out about his business. He repeated his visits, at different intervals, perhaps some half-a-dozen times, before he attracted my attention to anything peculiar in his appearance, and then I should have been at a loss to say what I saw more in him at last than at first.

He was apparently about twenty-five years of age, of medium height and slender figure, of a dark complexion, regular features, with dark, straight hair, dark eyes, and a beard that covered the lower part of his face—in all of which there was nothing remarkable—nothing striking. He was quiet, not talkative—had nothing to say except about the business he came on—got what he wanted when it was disengaged, paid for what he got like a gentleman, and generally retired with an ordinary "good day," or some similar civility.

And yet, as I have said, he began to attract my attention at last, and I began to wonder why. Was it because he was so quiet, reserved and gentlemanly, and did not purchase whiskey like the rest, and occasionally get excited and boisterous? or was it because there was a something about him I could not really fathom? At all events, he had begun to interest me in some way; and the very fact, perhaps, that I could not tell how or why, led me into a closer scrutiny, a deeper study, of the man.

After this I prolonged his visits as much as I could without causing him to suspect I did so intentionally. The things he wanted I generally had some trouble in getting; and I filled up the intervals by remarks about the weather, the country, the mines, the success of some and the failure of others—in a word, anything I could think of to induce conversation—watching him furtively all the while. He answered easily and readily, and yet with that peculiar kind of reserve that was not suggestive, or tending toward familiarity. His replies, however, evinced a man of mind and education; and I began to give him credit for being a thinker—perhaps a practical and active dreamer, if I may use a paradoxical term the best expresses my idea.

One day, I scarcely knew how, I touched upon the general superstitions of mankind, and to my surprise I saw that at last he was interested. His eye changed expression and brightened, and emitted a strange and peculiar gleam; and my attention being thus directed to his eye, I now bethought me that I had never seen one exactly like it—one capable of being so apparently open down to the soul while concealing so much. It was off its guard now—the door was really open down to the soul of the man—and I looked in at that door, that opening, *and saw that the soul of that man was a dark one.* A nameless fear came over me—a strange thrill passed through me, like an electric shock—I felt an internal shudder of dread. No wonder I had not been able to read him before; the man had been wearing an impenetrable mask.

I now had the key to the mystery and to him, and I used it. He was interested in superstitions—he was superstitious himself. Why? Good men may be superstitious—bad men always are—because they carry a world of wild fancies with them. Thus it was with this man, as I could see by his eye, and I made his fancies work upon him. I told him stories of sorcery, witchcraft and magic—of ghosts, hobgoblins and devils—till he became pale with fear, breathed with compressed lips, and trembled in spite of his great nerve and will.

If good men, as I have said, are sometimes superstitious, why, you ask, did I think this man bad for being superstitious also? First, I answer, because I had accidentally thrown him off his guard and read his soul; and secondly, because he was not naturally nervous and credulous. *Fear* only had made him so; and, in one of his iron nature, fear could only arise from the self-convinced knowledge of a past wicked deed. The man was even then a criminal.

But let me hasten to the *denouement*.

It chanced that no other person was present when this conversation occurred about the superstitious fancies of men, and as soon as we were interrupted by the entrance of another customer my dark visitor left somewhat abruptly. After that he did not come as often as before, and never seemed as much at ease, and never renewed the conversation that had so agitated him, and never, in fact, entered into any other that he could possibly avoid. I kept my thoughts to myself, but made some casual inquiries about him, and learned that he had been so fortunate as to secure a capital "lead," from which, with his partner, another young man, he was taking out gold in quantities that promised to enrich both, and that both had the good will and esteem of all who knew them.

One dark night, about three or four weeks after this, I was startled from my sleep by wild, prolonged shrieks, and cries of:

"Murder! murder! help! help!"

I jumped up, seized my revolvers, and darted out into the open air. The cries and screams still continued, coming from a point on the bend of the river about a hundred rods below. In a minute I was joined by five others, all well armed, and together we ran hard as we could to the place from which the alarm proceeded.

When we arrived there, at least thirty men were collected in and around the tent of the dark man I have been describing, and he himself it was who had given the alarm. His partner and companion had been murdered and robbed, and he himself had been slightly cut across the face and gashed on the left arm, and he was all excitement, lamenting his dearest friend, and vowing vengeance against the assassin. It was some time before we could get at the particulars, and then we learned that both had been sleeping side by side, when an unknown robber had crawled under the light canvas, stabbed one to the heart, and taken a large bag of gold from under his head. While this he was escaping, when the present narrator awoke and seized him, and received the wounds which had compelled him to relinquish his hold. Lights were brought, and there, sure enough, was the bloody confirmation of all that had been related.

I shall make no attempt to portray the intense excitement, the wild rage and consternation, which the daring murder occasioned. Every man felt that, if the assassin escaped without his just punishment, there would no longer be security for any one in our hitherto quiet and peaceful valley, and solemn oaths were taken to hang the wretch, if found, upon the nearest tree. A large reward was offered for his detection, and every gambler that had ever been seen about the place was suspected of the assassination; and I believe that, had any man been arrested on the following day, he would have been hung first and tried afterward. I said less than any, for I had my own suspicions, and I contrived my plot in secret, making a confidant of no one.

The murdered young man was as decently buried as surrounding circumstances would permit; and then his companion, my superstitious friend, grew more moody with grief, refused to work his "lead" any more, and proposed selling off his rocker and tools and quitting the country altogether. I think he would have gone at once, only I told him it would not look well to leave without an effort to discover the murderer, as some people might be malicious enough to say he knew something of the matter, and so get him into trouble. He turned very pale, and declared he would stay a year if by that means he could discover the assassin of his dear, dear friend.

On the second afternoon following the tragedy, almost every individual in the vicinity, the friend of the murdered man among the rest, assembled at my store on my particular request. I told them I had something to communicate concerning the foul deed, and that I thought it not unlikely I might give them some clue to the assassin.

When all had collected, and arranged themselves, as I had directed, in a semi-circle before my door—eager, expectant, excited—I came forward, holding in my hand an egg. Then I made a short speech on the various superstitions of mankind, which I contended had their origin in mysterious facts revealed from the other world by God's good providence for the protection of the innocent and the punishment of the guilty; and, among other things, I mentioned how the ghosts of their victims would often haunt their murderers, compelling them to reveal their crimes—how land and sea had been known to give up their awful secrets—and how it had been asserted that if the guilty wretch were to place his hand upon the body of the man he had secretely slain, the wounds would bleed afresh.

"And now, gentlemen," I continued, "I hold in my hand as sure a test as any I have named. This simple egg, so fair to the view, contains the murderer's secret. Let him but come to it in his hand, and the frail shell will crumble to pieces and show to all that it is filled with the blood of his victim. You will excuse me, gentlemen, for putting you all to this test. We do not know each other's secrets—the murderer of the young man we buried yesterday may be among us; but only the *guilty* need *fear* the trial—the *innocent* will surely pass the ordeal unharmed."

As I said this, I fixed my gaze upon my dark visitor, my suspected man. I never saw a more wretched and ghastly countenance, nor a greater struggle in any living being to keep a calm and unmoved exterior.

The egg began its round. Some took it gravely, some lightly, some turned slightly pale, and some laughed outright. But on it went, and came nearer and nearer to the man for whom it was intended. I could see that he was trembling—that his very lips were getting white.

"It is your turn now!" I said, at length, in a cold, stern tone.

"Mine?" he answered, with a ghastly attempt at a smile. "Why—why—should I—I take it? Poor Wilson was my—my—friend!"

"Let him prove so now!" I said. "All eyes are upon you. Take the ordeal sent by heaven, and prove your innocence—*if you can!*"

He glanced hurriedly around. All eyes were indeed upon him, and with looks of awakening suspicion. He made one despairing effort to be calm, gulped his breath like one choking, and seized the fatal egg with trembling hands.

The next moment it was crushed to atoms and his hands were wet and stained as if with human gore.

A wild yell burst from the crowd.

A despairing shriek came from the lips of the guilty wretch; and falling, rather than sinking, down upon his knee, he cried out:

"God of mercy, forgive me! I did kill him! I did kill him for his gold! his gold! his gold! Oh, cursed gold! Oh, God of heaven, forgive me!"

"And how many before him?" demanded I.

"Three! three! Oh, God of mercy, forgive me!"

There was another wild yell, or rather howl of fury—a rush like wolves upon their prey—and the poor wretch was seized, almost torn limb from limb, and dragged furiously away.

In less than ten minutes from his confession he was dangling from a neighboring tree—swinging by the neck.

So died the murderer, whose name I have suppressed because he had many respectable friends who are still living.

I will only add, that, believing him to be guilty, I had previously prepared the egg, putting red co oring matter into it, expecting to see him crush it through his superstitious fears of a supernatural discovery.

They offered me the promised reward for the detection of the murderer—but this I declined. Justice was all I had sought, and this I had obtained.—*Selected.*

LIFE IN DEATH.

A STRANGE EXPERIENCE.

BY MARIAN MOULTON.

[Oriental Casket.]

She is dead!"

These three words, proceeding from the lips of an eminent physician, and spoken in a low, solemn tone so generally used to convey sad tidings, announced to my weeping friends that I had ceased to be.

But the doctor, as doctors often are, was mistaken. I was not dead. I was not even asleep. I heard, as distinctly as I can now hear, every word he said. I felt, as percept ibly as I can now feel, the clasp of his fingers upon my wrist and pulse. But the power of motion had ceased—the motion of will, the motion of lungs, the motion of the heart. All was still throughout the body—as still as if death reigned there. Yet every sense seemed alive—acutely alive. I could hear, I could see, I could feel—I know not that I could not have smelled and tasted.

There was a strangeness about these senses, though. I seemed to be in the body, and yet out of it. I seemed to hear with my ears, see with my eyes, feel with my nerves, and at the same time be so independent of my mortal form as to have a complete identity without it. Where my actual, living self was, I could not clearly comprehend. My body I knew was there, on the bed, stretched out as if in death—pale, still, lifeless—and around this body were collected my weeping family—my mother, my husband, my two children—together with the doctor, a black nurse and servant, and some two or three sympathizing females, strangers to me, who had come in to inquire about my condition and had remained to see me die.

I was at a hotel in an interior town in Virginia, and had been travelling for more than a month for the benefit of my health, which had been on the decline for a year. We had left our home in New York, stopping at Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, and were at last on our way to the famous White Sulphur Springs, of Greenbrier county, Virginia, travelling slowly through a mountainous region, when I had gradually become so ill as to be unable to proceed. A week's sickness—during which I had had the best medical skill of that region, and the most devoted care and attention—had resulted, as was believed, in my decease.

It was about ten o'clock in the morning of a beautiful day in mid-summer. The windows of my apartment were open; and the clear, delightful air of that mountainous region came gently in, bringing the sweet perfume of flowers, the soft rustle of leaves, playing with the curtains, and lightly kissing the forehead brow of the mourners.

And they were mourners indeed—that group of four of my nearest and dearest kin that were gathered around my bed. There stood my gray-haired mother, silently gazing upon my inanimate form through great scalding tears that were following each other down her furrowed cheeks. There stood the beloved partner of my bosom—speechless and tearless in his heaving agony, slowly rubbing one hand over the other, with no power to give vent to feelings that were internally rending his manly frame. There stood my two children—my bright-eyed boy of ten, and my sweet little girl of eight—both crying and sobbing as if their little hearts would break. Oh, how I longed and struggled to force my lips to move and say that I was not dead!—that a loving daughter, wife and mother was still with them in the earthly land.

Slowly, with respectful steps, the doctor withdrew, and one by one the other strangers followed him, till only the black nurse came up and closed my eyes, by carefully pressing down the lids with her fingers; and then, somehow, I seemed gradually to lose consciousness, as if sinking into a calm, deep sleep.

For a time there was a low, confused sound, as of persons moving about and talking at a great distance—and once or twice I fancied myself being lifted and turned—and then all seemed to close up in a calm and sweet oblivion.

My next remembered sensation is of being in some close, confined place, where all was dark and still. At first I could not recall what had happened, nor imagine where I was; but by degrees the scene of my supposed death came back to me, and then a fearful horror thrilled me at the thought that I might already be in my coffin, and perhaps buried alive! Oh, heaven! the agony of that thought! what language can describe it? I tried to speak, but my lips were sealed; I tried to turn, to raise my hand, but not a muscle could I stir; I tried to open my eyes, but the lids were fast; I listened intently, but not a sound broke the awful silence. My soul was alive though, and mentally I prayed:

"Oh, my God, deliver me! Oh, merciful God, deliver me!"

Some time after this, as if in answer to my prayer, I heard the sound of moving feet, as if some one were stepping slowly, solemnly, and lightly across the floor. The steps drew nearer and nearer, and seemed to halt beside me. Then there was a slight noise, as of something being moved above my head, and a sensation as of a light shining suddenly out of darkness upon closed eyelids. This was followed by the sound of a long, deep sigh, ending in a suppressed and mournful groan, and then by a long, heavy pressure of the human lips upon my own. Oh, the unspeakable agony of not being able to respond to the devotion of him who was more to me than life! for my very inmost soul acknowledged it to be my loving and beloved husband who was with me, in the lone watches of the night, mourning me as if gone forever from the realm of time!

"Oh, my dear, dear Mary, why did you leave me thus?" he said, in a low, tremulous, sobbing tone; "why did you leave me thus, to struggle on alone in the world that will henceforth be a dark and dreary one to me? Oh, God, why could she not be spared to me and to her children a little longer? Oh, merciful God! I know it is sinful in me, a poor mortal, to repine at Thy wise decree! and therefore I beseech Thee to give me strength to bear up under this great affliction! Oh, Heavenly Father! support and sustain me, that I be not utterly crushed with the weight of this great sorrow!"

These words I heard and felt through all my being, and yet could not move—could not respond. Was the misery of Tantalus equal to mine?

Again I felt the warm, holy pressure of my husband's lips upon mine; and as he drew back, with another heavy groan, I heard him murmur:

"Oh, how beautiful is my dear Mary, even in death! How like is her death to a calm and peaceful sleep! Ha! what do I behold? moisture upon those lips! and a color upon those cheeks! Gracious God! perhaps she is not dead!"

He rushed from the room, and for the first time my soul trembled with hope. Might I not be saved at last?

In a minute I heard quick steps returning, and the voices of my mother and husband speaking excitedly:

"There! there!" he exclaimed, as he came up to my side. "Look! look! is that death?"

"It seems like life—it really seems like life!" exclaimed my mother, in a wild, agitated tone. "Oh, Heaven! if it should be! if it should be! But do not hope too much, Henry—do not hope too much!—it may be a cruel deception, after all!"

"Quick!" he cried, "let us take her from the coffin, roll her over in blankets, rub her, and try every restorative! Quick! your spirits of hartshorn!—quick!—quick!"

A moment after, a shock seemed to pass through my system—my eyes unclosed—my breath came—my tongue was loosed—and —"dear mother! dear husband!" issued from my lips.

A wild shriek of joy greeted my returned animation; wild confusion followed; the coffin lid was torn off; I was lifted out and carried to a bed; the house was roused; the doctor was sent for; and before morning my dear children were led to the bed of their living mother.

I need add but little more. I recovered rapidly—my disease left me—and in three weeks I was able to resume my journey homeward—a living wonder, if not a miracle.

It was the second night after my supposed decease that I was restored to life. I had been placed in a coffin, which was to have been sealed up the next day, for the long, homeward journey of the dead. The devotion of my husband, under the providence of God, saved me.

I am now in the bosom of my happy family, alive and well; and in my daily prayer of thanksgiving for my wonderful deliverance, I earnestly pray to be long spared to those who so devotedly love me.

A LENTEN DREAM.

The lights are out, the play is done,
The joyous happy time has fled;
I sit alone as with the dead
And wish the play were half begun.

Before my musing vision rise
Fair phantoms from life's passing stream,
And in a sweet, delightful dream
I mingle reverie with sighs.

Like wrecks upon youth's golden strand
Lie relics of that blissful time—
A flower, a lock of hair, a rhyme,
A tiny glove from one fair hand.

Nay! here are other locks of hair,
More faded flowers, of gloves a score;
Of dainty, scented notes some more—
My trophies. Ah! I must beware.

I've tasted well of every dish
That pleasure spreads within its hall;
But now I've bid adieu to all,
And live on memories—and fish.

—*American Queen.*

STRANGE, WILD STORY.

[Youth's Companion.]

"A diamond ring on fingers that sew for a living!"

The envy and suspicion that prompted this remark, and others like it, was turned into pity, when the women of Bloomsboro' learned that the genteel and reserved stranger, who had brought a home among them, was burdened with a great sorrow.

This lady and her little girl wore handsome clothes,—they had no others,—and their appearance and manners were in strange contrast with their surroundings at Aunt Polly Carter's. In explanation, the kind old woman told her neighbors that Mrs. Van Dale was her great-niece; that her own pretty home had been broken up, her money wrongfully taken from her, and she had come to live with her, and was trying to get her living by making fine shirts for a city store.

Years after this, when greatly depressed, and fearing that she was about to die and leave her little girl friendless, Mrs. Van Dale told her story to one who had manifested sympathy without vulgar curiosity. Using her own words as nearly as I can after an interval of more than twenty-five years, I will repeat the story here.

"After my mother's death, I went to sea two voyages with my father, who was a sea-captain—once to Calcutta and once to Hong Kong. After this, which I enjoyed much, I gave up his ship, and we travelled in our country for about a year, when he died at Saratoga.

"I was left with a small property of twelve thousand dollars, in charge of his only relative—a half-brother—for whom my father had sent in his illness. Of course I was glad to see him, for I was alone in the world. The only personal friend or relative I had was this kind old farmer. He took me after my father's burial to his home.

"The moment I entered it, I saw that his wife, who had no children, and whose only purpose in life was to save both work and money, was not glad to see me. She did not even kiss the poor, forlorn little girl whose coming had so surprised her.

"After a dull and unhappy year, my uncle sent me to a boarding-school; and I went gladly, feeling sure I could find there more of the love for which my heart was aching than I had found in my uncle's home.

"My hopes were realized. The Principal of the school was a tender, motherly woman, and encouraged real friendships among the girls. When I had been there a year or two, the brother of my room-mate—a graduate of a medical school—came to visit her; and from the hour when we two met, my fate was interwoven with his.

"My uncle was satisfied with the young man's family and prospects, and gave his consent to our marriage; and in four months after that, he gave me and my twelve thousand dollars into stranger hands.

"I was taken to my husband's home, a rambling old house, said to have been built before the Revolutionary War. There were modern houses around it, which were occupied by the brothers of my husband—rough-looking men—and by a widowed sister. The sister was the oldest of the family; and she was a most forbidding woman in person and manners.

"The family all called my husband 'Dr. Thad,'—although he had never had a patient,—and they seemed very proud of him and of his learning, as well they might be. I was told that some of his brothers were engaged extensively in the oyster business, and others in shipping, 'down the coast,' wherever that was.

"I often heard loud talking between the young men and the old people, who always seemed pleading with them, for or against, something,—I knew not what.

"When I had been in the house about six months, I was startled and distressed, one day, by husband's telling me that he must leave me for some time, and that, if I felt lonesome with the old people, I could go to Effie's.

"Effie, the widowed sister, seemed more like a stalwart man in woman's clothes than she did like a woman. She always looked at me as if reading my very thoughts. I told my husband that there was a weirdness about Effie's house that made my blood run cold; and added, 'I am afraid of your sister.'

"He asked me if any one had been telling me stories about her.

"I replied that no one had spoken to me about her, in fact I knew no one out of his family, and I pleaded with him to take me with him. But he put me off, saying that he was going to a lonely part of the coast on business, and should occupy a hut while there with two old negroes and several rough men with whom he should not dare leave me in his long absence on his scientific expeditions further down the coast and into the interior.

"That night two men came to the house and carried some iron-bound boxes from a locked closet in my room over to Effie's house. My husband asked me not to mention this to the old people, who were then absent, and added, 'Doctors have many things that people ought not to see, you know.'

"I thought of skeletons and dead bodies, and turned pale; but he laughed, and said, 'They are filled with surgical instruments, and such things;' and it was very natural for me to believe him.

"When my young sister-in-law came home from school to spend her vacation, I was very happy. But she seemed troubled. She was grieved to find me still there in that old house, and said, 'Thad promised me faithfully that he'd never bring you here. When he comes home, insist on his taking a house in town, and begin practice of his profession. Buy a house with your own money.'

"I told her I had given all my money to him. She sighed, and made no reply.

"My husband wrote me very often, mailing his letters from a Southern city. He was always 'coming home next month.' In the meantime my little girl was born, and she could walk and say many words before I saw him again.

"When he did return he said he would buy a place in town and stay with me but he soon had a letter which he said contained intelligence that he said would necessarily take him again away for several weeks at least. I then told him that I should certainly go back to my uncle's, unless he made some provision for a home for me and my child.

"A few hours later he came into the house, kissed me, and said that he had just heard the sad news that Jeff—one of his brothers—had been drowned at sea, but I saw no signs of grief in the house, and I did not believe it. Jeff's place, however, was bought for me. It was under the very shadow of the widowed sister's house, and I felt as if she was set as a spy over me.

"Even my servant bore the family name! My husband was always so tender in his manner towards me and our child, that although my confidence in his uprightness was shaken, I felt I would be happy anywhere if we could be together.

"I pleaded with him to take us, but he said it was not practicable. It was a lonely region where he was obliged to be, and to get to it I should have to tramp ten miles through the canebrake after leaving the last conveyance. 'You will not be happy there,' he said. At last, however, he promised to improve his accommodations, and send for us. But he did not keep his word.

"With all their riches—and they were supposed to be wealthy—the Van Dales were, for some reason, ostracized in that region; and I grew so nervous by the continual mystery that was about me, that sometimes I was almost frantic.

"One day I packed my trunks, when Effie, the sister, was away, and sent them to a storehouse in New York; and with a bag as my only luggage, I set off for that undefined locality, 'Down the coast.' I knew the name of the large city near the place I sought, and of the locality of the hamlet where my husband stopped.

"I travelled day and night. The cars carried me to within five miles of my destination, and there I took a wagon. My 'low white' driver, taking me for a nigger-hunter, shrewdly suggested that 'there was an old nigger down a piece off in the brake that never come out, and that they might be my 'niggers,' and he pointed out a rude path which might lead me to them.

"When, after a cruel tramp of two or three miles, I fell fainting on the cabin floor with my child in my arms, old Hippy and Tobe, the negroes who lived there, thought I was a ghost come to punish them for their sins. When I told them who I was, they fairly turned white! They said the mas'rs wouldn't be home for four days; but that they would 'cherish me right smart' themselves.

"I soon learned that Jeff, who had been 'lost at sea,' and Dave, who was 'in the West Indies,' were both with my husband. Old Hippy asked me if I was 'Mas's Thad's' young lawful wife—married to him de way dat sticks?'

'When I told her 'yes,' she sighed and said, 'Dis yere's a mighty wicked world! I wish de good Lord would take us all out on't! Does you pray, honey?'

"I could not tell her that my misery had yet led me to God.

"I pray,' she said, 'and Tobe, he aw'ars, but neither way gets us out o' dis yere death-swamp. Mas'r Jeff's wife died here ob swamp fever, and she lays dar, twixt de two tall pines dat's been skinned by the lightnin'. Wonder is we ain't all skinned by de lightnin'?'

"I told her I had seen his wife just before I left home, and she nodded her head in grief. 'Not dis yere one! She was a prairie's wife fust, and she helped 'em in all de business!'

"That night, after a supper of rice and 'possum, we sat listening to the howling of the storm, when Tobe remarked, 'Good night for business. We shan't see dem ones back; not for de present.'

"These words of Tobe's half revealed the wretched truth to me, and they aroused a feeling not of weakness, but of strength. I asked him to tell me all he knew of this family, and promised that if he would, I would help him to escape to the North.

"But dese dogs is trained to chase us, missus,' he said.

"I told him to kill the dogs. That plan for escaping had never entered his head.

"'Dey's a bad gineration,' he said. "Dey had trouble wid officers up Norf and so come down here to carry on de wrackin' business. where's less law to watch 'em. Dey lures vessels on to de rocks with false lights, and wracks 'em! Den dey robs de ships and de drownded passengers.

"I hasn't never heerd of one on 'em washin' ashore alive,' he said, in answer to my inquiry. 'Dey buries 'em in de sand. I peeps and I listens to 'em nights, and I know a heap!

"'But dey isn't no wuss dan dat great giant sister o' their'n, dat takes de gold and de jewelries in trunks up Norf, and hides 'em up; oh, dere's de heart o' a pirate into her bosom! And, O Missus, dere's heaps of buried gold and sich round here. I reckon dere's some under dat harf-stun, de dogs watches it so!'

"I told him I would not touch it any sooner than I would a serpent.

"We left the hut the next night, that we might not attract attention, and started for the North—Tobe carrying Anne, and Hippy carrying my bag and bundle—and reached the cars just at daybreak; and a poor, bedraggled-looking party we were!

"The negroes, who declared they had been stolen from a kind master and preferred to go back to him, rode a hundred miles with me, and then took to the roads to reach their former home,—with more money from my small store than they had ever seen before.

"I left no trace of myself, and the surprise of the men must have been great when they returned to their cabin to find the negroes gone and the dogs dead. Of course, they did not dare to pursue the blacks for fear of drawing attention to themselves and their dreadful work.

"When I reached New York, I took my trunks from the store-house. I knew Effie would seek me at my uncle's; and remembering that my father always sent a Christmas gift to his Aunt Polly Carter, I wrote to and received a welcome to the little farm-house—a haven of peace.

"Tobe and Hippy had spoken of my husband as being unlike his brothers. They thought him only their tool. But my love for him had all vanished, and I resolved that the Van Dales should never have my child."

About three years after this recital by the poor wife, the New York papers were filled, one day, with the details of crimes of a certain family,—giving names and place of residence,—and hints were given of piracy and statements of facts respecting the wrecking of ships for robbery. A description was also given of an Amazon, who was to figure in the trial.

The next day, aunt Polly and Mrs. Van Dale went off on a long journey. In a few weeks the former returned alone, saying that her niece had concluded to live in a milder climate.

Mrs. Van Dale had evidently fled lest she might in some way be traced and made a witness against those of whom she stood in mortal fear.

Many persons in middle life will recall the trial of these wreckers and the disclosures made of their crimes. But none of them knew the story of this young life that was blighted by a hasty connection with them, and was thus made a sufferer for their sins.

THE FRENCHMEN ESCHEWING BRANDY.

Tetotalers will be delighted to learn that a temperance movement of no ordinary strength has begun in France. The inhabitants of that country are not, it is true, forsaking the rough Bordeaux wine which is known by the name of "le petit bleu," but they are eschewing brandy; and it is hoped by those who are sanguine that, having given up the more seductive fluid, they may in the end be induced to surrender the less palatable drink. Possibly this might be the case, but for one little difficulty, which does not seem to have quite presented itself to the temperance advocates. The real cause of decrease in the consumption of brandy in France appears to be that so much inferior rognac has been vended of late throughout the country that the people, in sheer despair of getting anything better, have simply foresworn the beverage rather than be any longer deceived. There is, however, unfortunately, nothing in the way of wine that can really be classed as inferior to the terrible stuff with which it is the wont of the French peasant to regale himself, and thus all hopes of his being weaned from his wine, as he has been from his brandy, swiftly vanishes. Perhaps, if the teetotalers could offer him a better drink in its place, they could lead him to temperance. But that is a task which they do not seem capable of accomplishing.—*London Telegraph.*

Historical.

THE "MORMONS."

ORIGIN, RISE, AND PROGRESS.

[Boston Traveller.]

Our Mormons who are under stronger denunciation than usual in these days, often are compared to the Anabaptists of Munster, though the resemblance between the followers of the late Brigham Young and the followers of that John Boccold, or Bokelson, who became King John in Munster, is not very close. Anabaptist is a good word enough, but it came to be applied to men who made themselves odious in the eyes of most supporters of the Reformation. One effect of the Reformation was to bring into existence parties that went much farther for change than the first Reformers ever thought of going; and Luther was a conservative, in most respects. The ultras, or Reds, were men of views as advanced as those of the present Socialists, and who would have served Luther and his friends as Luther and his friends served the Catholics. What Luther was to Leo X., that was Thomas Munzer to Luther; and as Robespierre sent Herbert to the guillotine, so would Luther have sent Munzer to the gallows, had it been in his power thus to dispose of a very obnoxious man. Yet Munzer was quite as religious a man as Luther, and nothing could be alleged against his morals, unless it be immoral in a reformer to follow out his principles to their logical consequences. It is well known that Luther could not have effected his purposes, had he not been supported by the ruling men of Northern Germany; and if he had been without their aid and protection, he would have died by fire, or from hempen fever; and he would have come down to us with as bad a reputation as belongs to the worst Anabaptist of them all. Munzer was a man of the "Thorough" order, and he wished to put things through; and, could he have had his way, probably the higher classes would have been exterminated, or banished,—and Luther himself had to admit that those classes were composed but too numerously of men who were variously bad, and in particular that they were tyrants, and cruel oppressors. Yet he is said to have advised them to kill the poor peasants without mercy, like mad dogs. Munzer sympathized with the maltreated peasants, and he was in every sense a radical.

He had to leave Luther's vicinity; and, after some wanderings, he fixed himself at Mulhausen, in Thuringia. There he became very popular and powerful with the lower classes; and he and his followers sided with the peasants, in the terrible war they carried on against the aristocracy. That war was waged *a outrance*, and horrible birds rest, makes one bird less to destroy these insects.

In America, I am sorry to say that little birds are becoming more scarce, and troublesome insects are becoming more numerous. In new countries, where men and boys have not frightened the birds away, they let us go close up to them and see how they make their cunning nests, and how they feed their young, and now they teach their little birds to fly.

Mr. Ruskin, the famous Englishman, is much loved by his countrymen, says (in substance) that it is his fondest wish to make English boys and girls kind to the birds. And it looks as though he would have his wish, for "Dicky Bird Society," about which I told you in my first lesson, has now more than thirty-seven thousand boys and girls who are members of it, and each has promised to try to get other boys and girls to join it.

You remember *Thoreau*, about whom I also told you in my first lesson, and how kind he was to the birds, and how they would fly onto his shoulder, and even on to his spade when he was digging. I saw in the city of Paris, in France, a few years ago, in the great public gardens, a man who had been so kind to the little birds, and so that they would light on his hands and feed from his fingers. In the city of Venice, in Italy, the people feed the pigeons every day at noon, in the great public square of Saint Mark, and when it is near the hour of noon, you will see the pigeons flying from all parts of the city, over the roofs of the buildings to be fed. It is a crime in Venice to harm a pigeon.

Some people wonder where the birds go in winter. They forget that birds have wings, and some of them can fly farther toward warmer climates in one day than we could go with horses and carriages in a week. It is said that swallows can fly sixty miles an hour, and that one bird, called the "*Frigate-bird*," can cross the tropical Atlantic Ocean in a single night. Some of these birds have most beautiful plumage, which we should constantly admire if we treated them kindly as Thoreau did, so that they would come near us. And some of them have songs so beautiful that one good man was led to say, "Lord, what music hast thou provided for saints in heaven, when thou givest such sweet music to men on earth!"

Some years ago, an Englishman was coming down the River Nile, in Egypt, on a large boat loaded with grain, and the birds came off from every village and eat the grain piled on the deck. The Englishman asked the Egyptian captain of the boat, "Who owns this grain?" and the Egyptian captain said, "I own it." Then the Englishman asked him why he let the birds eat up the grain. Then the Egyptian asked the Englishman, "Who made the birds?" and the Englishman answered, "God." Then the Egyptian asked whether grain was a food which God intended birds to eat; and the Englishman said it was. Then the Egyptian said, "Let them eat and be satisfied, for God in his goodness has provided enough for all his creatures."

It is very wicked and cruel to kill or wound these little birds that are so useful and sing so sweetly, and enjoy life so much; and it is still more wicked and cruel to kill or wound them in spring-time, when their little nests are full of young that may starve if the mother-bird is injured; and it is just as cruel to catch them, and keep them in little cages away from all *their* friends and companions, as it would be for some giant to catch little boys and girls, and keep them in little cages away from all *their* friends and companions. But this is not true in regard to such tame birds as canary-birds, which have never been free. If they have kind persons to care for them, and good cages, and plenty to eat and drink, and are protected carefully from the weather, and perhaps permitted to fly about the house an hour or two each day, they may be very happy. I usually let my canary-bird fly about my house several hours a day, and he will fly to my fingers when I call him; though he rather prefers to fly to the top of my head, and play with me there. When I do not want him to sing I put a little mirror in his cage, taking care never to let the sun or lamp shine in it so as to dazzle his eyes, and he will look at himself for hours together, and keep as quiet as a mouse.

If you think that birds don't understand you when you speak kindly to them, you are mistaken. Two or three years ago, a good lady whom I know, near Boston, had a canary-bird that she loved very dearly, and had never spoken to unkindly. But one day she came home to dinner very late, and her husband,—an excellent man, who had been waiting for her a long time,—spoke very crossly, as good men sometimes do. Just then the bird began to call to her; and to make her husband ashamed of having spoken to her so crossly she spoke to the bird in the same way. A few minutes after she heard a fluttering in its cage, and when she went to it the bird was dead. Birds know a great deal more than some folks think they do. They knew when *Thoreau* spoke kindly to them, and they know when others speak unkindly.

I think no one ever feeds the birds, or does any other kind deed for them, without feeling happier, and being made better by it. If you don't believe what I say, try it.

Walter Von Vogelweide, the great lyric poet of the middle ages, so loved them that he left a legacy to the monks of Wurtsburg, on condition that they should every day feed the birds on the tombstone over his grave.

MR. WEBSTER GOES AFISHING.

As reminiscences of Daniel Webster are in order at this time, I shall relate a visit made to Marshfield in the summer of 1851, when I left home on an official visit to the half-boat stations of the Humane Society of Massachusetts, with two boys. We drove up to Mr. Webster's one fine morning at about nine o'clock, and found him on the point of mounting his vehicle to proceed to the harbor to get some fish. He had on an old velveteen coat and a slouched hat, and looked very black. On seeing me he lighted up and exclaimed, "Providence has sent the very man I want. My wife insists that I must go out and get some fish for dinner, and that I must not work any more to-day. Jump in,